

# the chronicle

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## Tap anniversary a proper knees-up



Christine Rhydderch, rear centre, at the reunion

Tap-dancers past and present gathered to celebrate a 25th anniversary in Walsall.

More than 60 people attended the reunion of Chris's Toe Tappers at Pelsall Community Centre.

Christine Rhydderch, aged 70, began teaching tap at Barr Beacon School in 1986 and runs the classes with her son Chris at St Martin's Church, in Sutton Road, Walsall.

### Damaging

Among those catching up with old friends at the celebration last week was mother-of-two Diane Hodson, who attended from 1986 until 1995 but left due to a hip problem.

"It's been brilliant to have a laugh at all the old photographs and see all the old

faces again," said the 63-year-old. I have many nice memories."

Mother-of-two Carole Nunn, a 57-year-old teacher who lives off Chester Road, Streetly, attended the Toe Tappers from the early 1990s until 2005, leaving so that she could take part in ballroom classes with her husband instead.

"The whole thing was very good fun," she said.

"When we started at Barr Beacon School they wouldn't let us tap on the floor because they were worried about us damaging it."

"They made us put down some boards that moved when you tapped on them. Horrendous, but very funny."

Classes take place four times a week. For information, call 01922 684695.



Chris's Toe-Tappers gather on stage at Pelsall Community Centre to celebrate 25 years of happy 'hoofing'

# SCHOOLS JOIN ACADEMY RUSH

ALL but six of Walsall's 19 secondary schools are expected to have become academies by early next year, a new report on the borough's education system has revealed.

Primary schools are also now being targeted for conversion to academy status, including Park Hall Junior School, in Park Hall.

The number of schools opting out of local authority

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control was pinpointed as one of the key reasons for the axing of Walsall Council's £345 million contract with private provider Serco.

Academy applications are currently pending for four schools within the Walsall borough. Joseph Leckie Community Technology College, in Delves, Castle Business and Enterprise College, in Leamore, The Streetly School and Park Hall Junior have all applied to the Department of Education.

A report written by Frank Barnes, assistant managing director of Walsall Children's Services-Serco, said: "It is predicted that by early 2012 only six secondary schools of 19 in Walsall will be maintained – 32 per cent – and 68 per cent will be academies."

"As the academy programme develops, primary schools are now being targeted."

The controversial Academies Bill was brought in by the new coalition government in July 2010, initially for schools rated as outstanding by Ofsted.

Schools rated good with outstanding features were also able to apply.

Park Hall Infants, Ryders Hayes Primary in Pelsall, Shire Oak Science College in Shire Oak, Queen Mary's Grammar and High Schools and Barr Beacon School all opted out of local authority control under this system.

### Sponsor

Three other schools – Blue Coat C of E Performing Arts College, Frank F Harrison Engineering College and Willenhall School Sports College – are on target to becoming academies with a sponsor.

They are expected to convert during winter and spring of 2012. Academies are schools that opt to cut their ties with the local authority, taking control of their own budgets and affairs.

Walsall Council said the number of schools becoming academies was behind its decision to end its multi-million pound contract with education company Serco.

## Tributes for club stalwart and ace goalscorer Trevor

HEARTFELT tributes have been paid to a former Rushall Olympic footballer who made a record 557 appearances for the club and went on to become a valued committee member.

Trevor Westwood, who scored 185 times for the Pies, died last Thursday following a long illness, aged 73. Mr Westwood, of Dovedale Avenue, Pelsall, joined Rushall Olympic FC in the 1950s and played in midfield and up front.

Friends at the club described him as a "tremendous footballer" who was "one of life's true gentlemen".

Club president Brian Greenwood, who knew Mr Westwood for 54 years, said: "He was a wonderful bloke and the most hard-working committee man Rushall Olympic will ever have."

"He holds the club record for the amount of appearances and I don't think that will ever be surpassed."

### Saddler

Mr Westwood, who worked as a saddler for Walsall Riding Saddle Company, was instrumental in helping to obtain a lease for land in Daw End which saw the club move into its Dales Lane ground 34 years ago.

It was previously based at the Aston University sports ground, having moved from Rowley Place, in Rushall, in 1975.

In 2008, Mr Westwood was presented with a Football Association Long Service Award for 50 years of consecutive service to the Evo-Stik North Premier Division club.

Mr Westwood's 185 goals put him into fourth place in the all-time list of scorers for Rushall.

He leaves behind his wife Patricia, daughters Alison and Claire and four grandchildren.



Westwood the player



Loyal committee man

## Violent footballers spared jail sentence



Shaun Neville – guilty plea

TWO footballers who attacked opponents during a match in Walsall have been spared jail.

Violence broke out during a six-a-side game between The Underdogs and the Borussia Teeth at Bloxwich.

Shaun Neville, of The Underdogs, pounced on opposition players and his team-mate Dean Simmonds joined in, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard on Monday.

The March 21 attack left Neil Timms with a broken jaw and Todd Nash with a fractured cheekbone.

Mr Rhyddion James, prosecuting, said the trouble started when Neville pulled James

Bird on to the AstroTurf where he was punched. Mr Nash went over to help his friend, only for Neville to punch him.

Then Neil Timms was attacked by Simmonds, Mr James added.

Judge Amjad Nawaz said the pair deserved an opportunity and handed them suspended prison sentences.

### Unpaid

Simmonds, 32, of Winterley Lane, Rushall, and Neville, 25, of Bloxwich Lane, Beechdale, pleaded guilty to causing grievous bodily harm. Neville also admitted assault.

They were given 12-month prison sentences, suspended for two years, ordered to 115

hours of unpaid work and to pay £800 in compensation.

Mr Oliver Woolhouse, in mitigation for Simmonds, said his client had experienced a "difficult start in life" and suffered problems with alcoholism.

Mr Chris O'Gorman, for Neville, said he had won many man of the match awards in the past.

The Underdogs were banned from the six-a-side league and all the team members have had life bans from the organisers, Leisure Leagues.

Victim Mr Nash, aged 25, of Heath Town, Wolverhampton, said afterwards: "I'm very disappointed they didn't go to prison."

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## Union ballot over strike action

The threat of the biggest outbreak of industrial action since the 1926 General Strike looms after unions representing millions of public sector workers served notice of ballots over pensions.

Unions made a series of announcements about strike ballots, raising the threat of a series of walk-outs from late November. Unison, Unite and the Fire Brigades Union all gave notice of ballots in the worsening row over pensions and launched angry attacks against the Government.

Unison's general secretary Dave Prentis said 9,000 separate employers' groups would be involved

in the action, describing the ballot as "unprecedented" in scale. He told the TUC Congress in London that unions were involved in the "fight of our lives" and was given a standing ovation by delegates.

The FBU said unions were being left with "little alternative" but to take industrial action, adding that firefighters faced contributions increasing by between 3.2 per cent and six per cent, a move which will cost them between £2,000 and £7,500 by 2014.

Cabinet Office minister Francis Maude, leading negotiations for the Government, said: "We want this to be a proper settlement."

## Swim cash changes

Free swimming for schoolchildren in Walsall is to continue after further funding was agreed, but over 60s will be asked to pay £1 a time from October when the overall £84,000 a year free swim cash pot dries up this month.

Cash allocated for the programme for people aged 60 and above and aged 16 and under finishes at the end of September. Walsall Council and NHS

Walsall have now agreed to continue its funding for under 16s at the authority's four leisure centres for the foreseeable future.

However, money to continue the offer for over 60s has not been secured. The £1 per swim charge will now be introduced from next month.

Alternatively there is a £10 per month offer for unlimited swimming or gym use. It is part of a new Train for a Tenner promotion.

## Number of unemployed is increasing

Jobless queues have grown in Walsall, with figures released revealing the biggest increase in unemployment in nearly two years.

Meanwhile, across the West Midlands as a whole another 4,000 were added to the jobless total, leaving 239,000, or 9.1 per cent, out of work in the region.

Nationwide, the jobless rate stood at 2.51 million or 7.9 per cent between May and July, the Office for National Statistics said, after the total number of unemployed increased by 80,000.

Prime Minister David Cameron said the rise was "disappointing".

"Every lost job is a tragedy for that family and I want to do everything that I can, and this Government will do everything it can, to help those people back into work," he said.

The figures are the largest quarterly increase in unemployment since the three months to August 2009, while economists had expected a rise of around 70,000. Within these figures, the number of unemployed 18 to 24-year-olds surged by 77,000 to 769,000, the ONS said. At the same time the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance increased by 20,300 to 1.58 million in August.

In Walsall the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance rose by 180 to 10,669, or 6.8 per cent of the borough's working population – way above the national average claimant rate of 3.9 per cent.

Councillor Chris Towe, cabinet member for finance and personnel, said youth unemployment was a particular concern. "We are trying to do something on apprentices in next year's budget to try to encourage apprenticeships in Walsall," he said.

In neighbouring Sandwell it was up 139 to 13,701, or 7.4 per cent, and in Wolverhampton it was up 122 to 11,930, or 7.8 per cent.

Birmingham it jumped by 2,170 to 51,228, or 7.6 per cent of the city's working population.

## Luxury homes plan survives objections

Plans to build luxury homes in Walsall have been given the go-ahead. The scheme to transform the former Three Crowns and create three £1 million mansions nearby was approved by the council's planning committee last week.

An original proposal by developer Pal Singh for four new swish homes in the green belt sparked anger from campaigners. It was scaled down to just three homes plus the pub conversion and this scheme was approved despite being recommended for refusal for the second time.

Sunny Singh, representing the developer, told councillors that residents living closest to the site in Sutton Road were in favour, while most of the letters of objection had come from residents in Fallowfield Road, less than a mile away from the pub.

### Closure

"We have refused an approach by a well-known supermarket chain for a convenience store which would not require planning permission, but which we believe is inappropriate in this location," he said.

An illegal car wash set up on the land will be closed down, he said. It had kept vandals at bay after the pub suffered a spate of thefts and damage.

Objectors were concerned about encroachment on the green belt while Walsall real ale campaigners were opposed to the loss of another pub in the borough.

But Councillor John Rochelle, of Aldridge Central and South, said: "Sadly, pubs are closing all over the country."

## Historic market to stay

A planning application has been submitted to keep Walsall's historic market in its temporary home for a further 18 months.

The 800-year-old market was moved to The Bridge to make way for the multi-million pound redevelopment of St Matthew's Quarter in October 2009.

Now council bosses want to extend its stay there for a third time. They say an 18-month extension is necessary while the first phase of the Old Square Shopping Centre revamp takes place.

## Trolleys targeted by thieves

Thieves have been snatching supermarket trolleys in the Black Country as the value of scrap metal continues to soar, it has emerged.

Stores have had hundreds taken during recent months and it is believed they are ending up at scrap yards.

Technology to stop trolleys being taken has failed to curb the thefts – crooks simply carry off the trolleys.

In Walsall, Asda customer services manager Sally Corns said the George Street store had lost about 300 small trolleys since Christmas last year. She said: "Shortly before Christmas last year we had 400 small trolleys delivered and now we are down to about 100."

The Asda store in Wolverhampton had almost 150 trolleys stolen in just one week, while in Cannock, Paul Sisson, manager of Morrisons in Mill Street, said staff lock the trolleys up at night.

Police are involved in an operation targeting metal thieves. Supt Mark Payne, from Wolverhampton Police, said: "Operation Steel involves a combination of visiting scrap metal dealers and making officers aware of particular crime trends."

## Gallery to host event

Artistic skills including sculpture, tapestry and carpentry will be on display in a new exhibition at The New Art Gallery Walsall. Structure & Material by Claire Barclay, Becky Beasley and Karla Black will run from September 30 to December 4.

An "in conversation" event with Claire Barclay and Becky Beasley is due on November 26 at 2pm. To book a free place in advance call 01922 654400.

## Local meeting

Concerns have been raised about mini motorbike riders in Brickyard Road, Aldridge and a neighbourhood watch meeting is taking place at St Thomas Church, in St Thomas Close, Aldridge at 7.30pm tonight.



Gary Nelson

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

## Hair hacking boyfriend, 25, is locked up

A jealous 25-year-old tied up his teenage girlfriend and hacked off her hair in a vicious attack. Theo McKenzie talked his way into the 18-year-old's Walsall home before subjecting her to the ordeal.

He admitted assault causing actual bodily harm and false imprisonment, and was sentenced to three and a half years in prison. Mr Shane Crawford, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that McKenzie refused to leave once he had got inside the teenager's home.

He began quizzing her about whether she had a new boyfriend. He started shouting at her and struck her in the back so she fell to her knees, before tying her up and punching her in the jaw as she pleaded with him to let her go.

McKenzie, of Rilstone Road, Quinton, then punched her in the stomach and checked her phone to see if she had received any calls from another man.

### Cries

He then began cutting off her shoulder-length hair, and put on loud music so her cries would not be heard. The girl suffered a panic attack and was having breathing difficulties, and McKenzie took her to hospital where she made a call for help and he was arrested. A bag of hair was later recovered from the house.

Mr Jas Mann, defending, said the couple had an "up and down" relationship and McKenzie was extremely jealous. He added: "He plainly reacted in a way he cannot justify. He accepts he totally lost it and that he was ranting and raving."

Mr Mann said McKenzie had smoked a considerable amount of cannabis before the incident, adding: "All reason went out of the window. He knows he behaved very badly, and he is very sorry for what he did. His remorse is genuine."

Judge Martin Walsh said the offences were all the more serious for the fact that they happened in the victim's home.

A father-of-three from Brownhills played a "key role" in a multi-million pound drugs network earning tens of thousands of pounds, a court heard.

Gary Nelson is now behind bars for his part in getting crack cocaine and heroin carried from Wolverhampton to Scotland. The 39-year-old admitted conspiracy to supply Class A drugs. He was jailed for 11 years last week. He was in contact with drug carriers and dealers in Aberdeen for over two-and-a-half years between 2004 and 2006.

Prosecutor Michael Burrows told Birmingham Crown Court that Nelson was the main phone contact almost as soon as he got out of prison for an earlier sentence in 2004.

Investigations showed connections with money being paid into an account from Aberdeen, Scotland and then the cash was being withdrawn in Wolverhampton.

People who were stopped by police north of the border and found to be in possession of heroin and crack cocaine, were found to have links with Nelson.

### Distance

Mr David Bentley, defending Nelson, said his involvement had ended almost five years ago and that he had moved away from Wolverhampton so that he could distance himself from such activities.

But sentencing him Judge Robert Orme said: "You were the central telephone contact in Wolverhampton. Your role was therefore a key role."

"It was a role that earned you considerable profit," added the judge.

A number of others have also been brought before the court recently.

Speaking after the case Det Insp Martin Brennan, from Force CID at West Midlands Police, said: "This is the latest in a string of sentences handed out following a lengthy and ongoing operation."

"We have disrupted what at one stage was an organised group of individuals," added Det Insp Martin.

## Collector in records book



Geoff Price shows off his ever-growing bus and coach collection

A model bus and coach collector from Walsall is celebrating after making it into the Guinness Book of Records for the third time.

Father-of-two Geoff Price proudly owns the biggest collection of model buses and coaches in the world. His collection, stored in his home in Park Hall, currently stands at 11,905.

The 60-year-old was mentioned in the Guinness Book of Records in 2004 and 2009 and is now in the 2012 version, which was released last week.

Mr Price first started collecting model buses, coaches and trams as a nine-year-old. When he married wife Linda in 1972 his collection stood at around 220 miniatures but has grown considerably over the years to include everything from toy buses to bus-shaped teapots.

"The Guinness Book of Records doesn't deal with many collections at all because it's such a wide subject," said Mr Price, who is father to Nicholas and Richard.

"Normally, they only put a couple of pages in about collections so to be featured in it is really pleasing."

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## Warning for horse owners

Signs have been put up around a Black Country borough warning horse-owners their animals will be confiscated if left to graze on council-owned land.

Stray horses have been a problem around Walsall for months as 80 animals which have been allowed to graze on grass verges have got in the way of traffic. There have also been reports they have chased children.

Councillor Zahid Ali, portfolio holder for communities and partnerships, said it would cost about £1,500 for specialists to remove each horse.

Walsall Council has put up signs warning owners to remove their animals.

He told a full council meeting: "Our experience has taught us that when signs are put in, stray horses are removed." The RSPCA says nearly 400 reports of tethered horses have been recorded in the Midlands in six months.

## Eyesore demolition

An "eyesore" building which has become a magnet for vandals on a main route in Walsall is to be pulled down.

Work to demolish Lime House in Littleton Street West is now under way, despite criticism from a campaign group working to save old buildings in the borough.

They say it was one of the last remaining limestone buildings left in the town.

But the derelict building, close to the new £64 million Walsall College campus, has been regularly targeted by vandals and arsonists.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, said: "We've taken the decision to pull down the building which will help eliminate the problem. Demolition also brings us a step closer to the eventual regeneration of that plot."

## Approval for a job shop

A job shop in Walsall which has helped more than 80 people find work has been given the civic seal of approval. Caldmore One Stop Shop, in Caldmore Green, offers a helping hand for people looking for work.

Mayor of Walsall Councillor Garry Perry visited to see the shop. More than 1,200 people have used the venue since it opened in February. "It's good to see such dedicated staff who are making a big difference to people's lives every day."

## Boss's pledge as administrators sent in

A building firm in Walsall as gone into administration. H Tomlinson & Son Ltd, in Navigation Street, Walsall, formed in 1923, is now in the hands of administrator Jason Grocock of G2 Insolvency, of Leicester.

The company, which employs more than 30 people, was set up by bricklayer Henry Tomlin-

son and his son Frank and stayed in the family until 2008 when it was bought by Mr Richard Edis.

Mr Edis confirmed last week that the firm was in administration, but insisted that work would be continuing and that jobs at the company would be safe.

"We are in administration, but we will be out

of administration as soon as we are paid by companies that owe us money. Work is continuing as normal."

In March this year, Tomlinson's moved to larger offices in Navigation Street, at Town Wharf Business Park, after increasing its workforce. Prior to this it was in Birchills Street, Birchills.

# Mark's new show is a weekend wind-up

Turning 30, planning a wedding and hosting a brand new show – it's a busy time for Walsall-born TV presenter Mark Rhodes.

The star, one half of hosting duo Sam and Mark, hit TV screens last Friday at 6pm with his latest offering.

Mark is appearing on CBBC with his new show Sam and Mark's Big Friday Wind Up, which he describes as having "a kind of 'Noel's House Party' vibe."

"I used to love Noel's House Party," says Mark, originally of Darlaston.

"This new show will be on for 13 weeks and we have different guests and we surprise people in the studio audience and surprise families and we also have a hidden camera element to it."

At the heart of the show is a money-can't buy prize – the chance to "win" one of the show's two presenters.

Now with more than 100 hours of live television under their belts, Sam Nixon and Mark have come a long way since they won over millions on Pop Idol in 2003.

### Dynamics

It was on the hit show, eventually won by Scot Michelle McManus, that the pair met and the dynamics and chemistry between them was clear.

A number one single – With A Little Help From My Friends – followed before a guest presenting slot on Top Of The Pops Saturday showed their talent for presenting.

They have since fronted shows including TMI, Skate Nation and Copycats.

As regulars on ITV's This Morning and presenters of their own radio show on Sundays, the duo are now well-established names in the entertainment industry. "I never thought that in eight years from then I would be living in London and working as a television presenter," he says.

"It was in 2003 when Sam and I started doing Pop Idol and wanted to become singers. Now we're television presenters, which is crazy."

"I think presenting is the way forward for us definitely."

"The music industry is so difficult to get into and we've got such a great and stable fan base now, we love what we do and we'd be stupid to try and go back into the music side of it."

While London may have called professionally, the former Darlaston Comprehensive School pupil still finds time to make it back to his



Mark Rhodes, from Walsall, co-presenting his new show

home town. I was back home last weekend to see all my family because it was my 30th birthday on the Sunday," he says.

"I try to get back as much as I possibly can, which isn't always easy because of work commitments, but when I do come back there's always so much to catch up on and talk about."

### Stomping

"I still go out in Wolverhampton if I'm here and seeing my mates, I still go to Oceana."

"It was my old stomping ground so I still like to revisit it sometimes, although I am 30, so not so much now." Mark is also busy planning

his wedding in June next year to fiancée Harriet, but the couple keep a low profile, and he is rarely heard talking about his private life.

"I'm really looking forward to getting married," he says.

"I think 90 per cent of the planning and preparation is down to my other half but she gives me jobs to do so I'm still involved in what's going on."

As well as all that, the singer-turned-presenter is an ambassador for Whizz-Kidz, which provides adapted wheelchairs for disabled young people.

He supports the charity in honour of his late nephew Tom Robbins, who died aged 19.



Mark Rhodes, right, with his presenting partner Sam Nixon



Mark on Pop Idol in 2003

He has now raised more than £10,000 for the charity through fundraising including a tribute concert and running the London Marathon.

He completed the gruelling 26-mile course in four hours and 47 minutes.

### Training

Next time it's partner Sam's turn to pound the streets and the 25-year-old, of Barnsley, is hard in training for next year's event.

"I did it last time so it's only fair that it's Sam's turn now," says Mark. "I've ticked that box. Plus I don't know if my legs would let me do it any more."

## Council broke rules on poll forms in skip

Walsall Council failed in its duty to protect people's personal information when ballot forms belonging to 1,650 voters ended up in a skip, investigators have ruled.

The Information Commissioner's Office said that "little thought" had been given to keeping residents' names, addresses, dates of birth and signatures secure.

The ICO ruled that the local authority did breach the Data Protection Act. The postal vote statements were lost after the Cannock firm contracted to look after them moved premises.

Staff from Clockwork Removals and Storage in Hawks Green mistakenly dumped storage bags containing the documents in skips, which were then rifled through and their contents scattered around the area and a nearby brook. The rest was buried under tons of rubbish at a local landfill site.

It was revealed recently that 951 statements have still not been recovered since they were lost in March.

ICO investigators found that the council failed to provide Clockwork Removals with instructions on how the information should be kept secure, as required by law.

### Recovered

Simon Entwistle, director of operations, said: "While councils can hire contractors to process personal information on their behalf, they must remember that they are still ultimately responsible for ensuring people's information is kept secure."

Paul Sheehan, chief executive of Walsall Council, has now had to sign a formal undertaking to ensure that proper contracts are put in place with all suppliers hired to process personal data.

The council will also have to ensure that sufficient guarantees are agreed with its suppliers.

Council leader Councillor Mike Bird said: "We have taken steps to ensure that this type of loss will not happen again."

The lost information relates to people who returned postal votes in the 2008 local elections from two wards – Aldridge Central & South, and Aldridge North & Walsall Wood.

Clockwork Removals and Storage spokesman Robert Horrobin said the bags were disposed of as workers honestly believed they were just normal waste.

## Trust criticised over end-of-life scheme

Concerns have been raised about an end-of-life care scheme at Walsall Manor Hospital.

An audit revealed that only 26 patients out of a possible 70 were placed on the scheme before they died at the borough hospital.

The inspection was carried out by the hospital palliative care team between April 1 and June 30 to find out how well the strategy was being implemented.

Concerns were raised about poor documentation where notes were not complete or written with "no logical sequence".

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust was accused of "significantly under-using" the Liverpool Care Pathway, a scheme for caring for end-of-life patients to ensure they are as comfortable as possible in their final days.

The pathway is organised into sections ensuring that evaluation and care is continuous and consistent and can be followed by non-specialist palliative healthcare professionals. But the audit report said: "The use of the Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) within the trust was poor when compared to the number of patients that we identified who were appropriate for the LCP."

Board members at the trust have now approved recommendations to educate as many staff as possible in end-of-life care, as well as review and monitor the scheme.

## Focus on opening competition

Aldridge Photographic Society runs its first competition of the season tonight (Thursday). Digital projection, colour and mono prints will be rated by international judge and lecturer Peter Clarke. Meetings are held at Aldridge Community Centre, Middlemore Lane, on Thursdays at 7.45pm, and new members are welcome. Details from 01922 685087.

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Lynne Mills enjoys the lido as a child in around 1960



Mrs Mills' daughters, Diane and Michelle, soak up the sun in the 1970s



Mrs Mills' grand-daughter Gemma, aged eight, takes a dip



Lynne Mills looks back over her photo memories of Walsall lido

# Memories of splashing times as lido era fades

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

With beaming smiles and happy faces, these photographs show three generations of one family splashing about in the lido at Walsall Arboretum.

Lynne Mills spoke of her sadness that the historic park feature is to be scrapped and replaced with modern water jets.

The 59-year-old, of Great Wyrley, has spent many happy, lazy afternoons cooling down in the water as a child, a mother and now as a grandmother, and has now opened her photograph album.

"The lido at Walsall Arboretum just holds so many memories of long, lazy sunny days during the summer holidays," says admin assistant Mrs Mills.

## Splashing

"It is something that all generations can enjoy. The older ones can go and have a paddle while they're keeping an eye on the kids splashing around in it."

Mrs Mills first visited the lido as a child on days out with her mother.

Originally from Sutton Coldfield, Mrs Mills was a regular visitor to Sutton Park but when the family moved to Cannock, Walsall Arboretum was a much closer alternative.

"It was always such a treat to go to the lido," she recalls.

"I used to go with my mother and it was always such a lovely place to go."

When she had her own children Diane, now aged 41, and Michelle, 39, Mrs Mills took them to enjoy the water feature during the six-week summer holidays.

"We used to go to the Walsall Arboretum a lot. In the autumn we used to go to the illuminations and then in the summer it was the lido," she says.

"Of course, the illuminations have also gone now too, which is a shame."

Now, a grandmother to three – Alex, aged 21, Ryan, 11 and Gemma, eight – Mrs Mills still visits the lido every year.

"My grandchildren love it and we've been going every year since they were born and it's something they really look forward to," she says.

"We went this summer to make the most of it but it's just such a shame it won't be there anymore."

Daughter Diane, of Hednesford, shared her mother's sadness at the loss of the lido.

"My mum used to take me and my sister when we were young and we always enjoyed it," she says.

"It's somewhere I've always taken my children Ryan and



The lido at Walsall Arboretum pictured in its heyday in 1969. It is soon to be replaced by a modern 'splash pad'

Gemma too and they love it. We also used to take the kids to the illuminations in the autumn and they were really upset when that stopped.

"At Walsall Arboretum there was always so much going on like boating on the lake. But they are bringing that back in the future though, so that's something."

## Reception

For 11-year-old Ryan, the news was met with a mixed reception. The jets might be alright but I think I'll prefer the pool as it is," he said.

"I've been there lots of times and it's always a good laugh." The lido dates back more than 50 years but will be

replaced by modern interactive water jets in a £175,000 scheme due to start this winter.

Council chiefs had said the lido was in need of repairs and was "not the most hygienic".

Leisure and culture chief Councillor Anthony Harris said: "Yes, the old lido is being replaced by the new splash pad at the end of the summer."

Traditional lidos have had their day.

"Simply because something was popular in the 1950s doesn't mean we should keep it in 2011."

"It's fair to say that we haven't observed a campaign to keep it and what will replace it will be exciting and popular."

## Mobile vehicle to target bus lane drivers

Drivers who illegally use bus lanes around Walsall are set to be targeted in a crackdown on queue jumping traffic.

Walsall Council chiefs are looking to deploy a mobile enforcement vehicle to tackle those who break the law. It is part of moves to use camera technology to deter motorists from clogging up bus lanes.

Walsall transport chief councillor Tom Ansell said: "The council is currently in the process of procuring a mobile enforcement vehicle that can be deployed across all bus lanes within Walsall."

"Once deployed, this will ensure that buses are not unnecessarily delayed by vehicles not entitled to use bus lanes."

It comes after it emerged proposals to open a bus lane on the multi-million pound Walsall ring road to all traffic will not happen for at least another year.

Highways bosses have been looking at the option following complaints from drivers.

Motorists travelling along Lichfield Street cannot go straight on or turn right at the main town centre junction.

But the council wants to properly enforce another bus lane in nearby Hatherton Road, where scores of drivers have been caught flouting the restriction, before this can happen.

Bosses admit a final decision on opening up the Lichfield Street bus lane to all traffic is unlikely to be made until next summer.

## New flats plans for old leatherworks

Interest in plans to revamp a former leatherworks in Walsall has picked up after the multi-million pound scheme was delayed by the economic downturn.

The Grade II-listed landmark Boak building in Station Street has the green light for 31 flats, but the scheme has so far failed to get off the ground.

Now owner Property Link Midlands has revealed it is in talks with agencies in a bid to kick start the proposed development. Adjoining derelict buildings are to be spruced up in a new push to attract investors to the site in Premier Business Park.

When completed it will be the centrepiece of a wider 240-home scheme at the site. The landmark Boak building at the corner of Bridgeman Street dates back to 1903.

It was initially a tannery before becoming a jeans factory for about 20 years, but it fell out of use as a factory in 2006.

Pal Singh, of Property Link Midlands, said: "We are still pretty positive about things and the market is changing. The eventual development will probably be done in stages. It will probably be a multi-million pound project."

The scheme for a mix of five and six storey blocks won planning permission two years ago and is near Walsall Waterfront where new homes developments are under way.

## Loss of grit bins will save council £30,000

Grit bins are set to be removed from streets in Walsall to save £30,000 from the winter budget.

However, the cash could be reinvested in making sure school and bus routes are clear in bad weather. The use of grit bins has been described as "expensive" by council chiefs as some residents plunder them for their own use on their drives rather than the road.

Money may then be allocated to increase the number of paths gritted.

A total of 51 per cent of school and 50 per cent of bus routes were covered last year.

The proposals have been put forward by a designated Walsall Council working group set up to review the whole winter service.

Currently 174 grit bins are in place around the borough but these will be removed where considered safe to do so and a smaller gritting vehicle used instead.

A report from the working group says grit bins were an expensive way of providing help and prone to creating anti-social behaviour as well as being open to misuse or abuse by many.

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## Woman, 43, sent to prison

The actions of a trusted finance manager who stole more than £280,000 from a Willenhall primary school has caused 'substantial loss and damage' to the school, its headteacher said. Kerry Smith wrote cheques out to herself.

The married mother-of-three squandered Fibbersley Park Primary's cash on holidays to New York, Cyprus and Sri Lanka, designer clothes, handbags and her Bilston home.

The £20,000 a year finance officer from Stowheath Lane was sentenced to three years and four months in jail on September 9.

The 43-year-old admitted one theft and 12 counts of fraud after writing herself cheques. Walsall Council and governors of Fibbersley Park Primary School secured a High Court injunction in July freezing the assets of Smith. The legal action will recoup much of the cash.

The council is also now undertaking a review of school financial monitoring systems.

Headteacher Joanna Austin said: "Mrs Smith was in a position of trust and responsibility - she has caused substantial loss and damage to the school and the young people and parents it serves."

## Cleaner car parks

Car parks in a Walsall community once plagued by fly-tippers are looking tidier after a campaign was carried out. Six car parks in Caldmere and Palfrey were being targeted by dumpers.

Fed up residents in Whitehall Road, Victor Street, Watery Lane and Besot Street had complained to Walsall Housing Group and the council about the problems. These included bays in communal residents' car parks being blocked by waste and overgrown bushes.

Palfrey ward Councillor Allah Ditta said the situation had improved since spring, but there were still some streets in need of regular litter picks as part of efforts to keep the area tidy.

Householders and businesses recently joined forces to organise clean-up days.

## History course

People interested in tracing their family history are invited to take part in a course in Walsall. Sessions will take place at Walsall Local History Centre every Monday at 2pm, starting from next week and running until October 17. Each class costs £5 or £30 for the course. To book, call 01922 721305.



The outside of the university performance hub



New computers and acoustic chairs in the library



The new building's theatre entrance and atrium

# A first look inside the new university campus



Information assistant Linda Parrinder stocks the shelves in the library

This is the new £10 million dance, drama and music centre students will be able to use at Wolverhampton University's Walsall campus from now on.

At the start of term, students were welcomed back to find a large futuristic building at the campus off Gorway Road. The four-storey Performance Hub houses teaching and rehearsal space, dance studios, music rooms, theatres, offices and a library.

A light and spacious atrium with large windows, complete with sofas, is at the centre of the building.

Concerts, plays and recitals are to be staged inside the black box theatre area where seats can be folded away to create a large open space.

The theatre is also home to a £75,000 concert grand piano which was delivered to the university, along with 14 others, last week.

### Pianos

The university is only one of three in the UK to hold the All-Steinway School status, meaning at least 90 per cent of its pianos are designed by Steinway & Sons - a firm which makes pianos for artists like Lang Lang and Billy Joel.

Books and equipment from the learning centre were moved into the building over the summer, along with new computer suites and music technology equipment.

Just outside the performance hub there is also a large circular combined heat and

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power plant, which generates power to heat the building. The centre will bring together actors, choreographers, designers, writers, researchers, dancers and musicians from across the region.

It is expected to be used by thousands of students.

John Pymm, dean of the school of sport, performing arts and leisure, said it was one of the best performing arts centres in the UK.

He added: "It's really exciting. There has been a real buzz about it."

The centre has been built on the site of a former teaching tower and halls of residence, which were demolished in 2007.

It completes a £50 million transformation of the Walsall campus over the past eight years.



Dean of the school of sport and performing arts John Pymm at the performance hub



The new circular-shaped combined heat and power plant outside the building

## Police to focus on sex trade

Police have vowed to continue a crackdown on prostitution and kerb crawling in parts of Walsall.

In the operation launched in February, officers have seen more than 100 prostitutes loitering in the town.

Most have been referred to support agencies for issues such as addictions and housing problems.

Eleven men have been charged with soliciting and bailed to appear in court, and others have been given official police cautions.

Pc Paul Fairhurst said: "The operation to tackle kerb crawling and sex workers in Walsall will continue and we hope that the results so far will act as a warning to potential kerb crawlers not to come to Walsall."

"We will continue to target kerb crawlers and sex workers as this affects so many people's lives."

People affected by prostitution can call police at Walsall on 0345 113 5000.

## Garden's new name

A retired locksmith has come up with the name for a community project.

Father-of-two Michael Wall, whose son Adrian attends Walsall's Goscote Centre for adults with learning disabilities, impressed the judges by coming up with "Goscote Greenacres".

Mr Wall, 61, who lives with wife, Carol, 59, in Furzebank Way, Willenhall, said: "My son Adrian has been using Goscote for around nine years."

"While he has challenging behaviour and learning disabilities, he will be able to plant things."

"He will need to be supported and shown a few times, but he will get a lot out of the environment that is being created there."

Mr Wall has been given gardening tools as a prize.

## Church open for visitors

Walsall's oldest building is throwing open its doors every week to let people have a look around.

St Matthew's Church will be open every Saturday between 10am and midday. The Reverend Colin Gibson said people are welcome to pop in for a free cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit and to soak up the atmosphere. Volunteers will be on hand to talk to or to pray with.

Rev Gibson said: "It is a terrible shame that churches are so often locked up in this era of theft and vandalism."

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## thechronicle

### Bus lane decision delayed

MOVES to open a bus lane on Walsall ring road to all traffic will not happen for at least another year, council chiefs have admitted following complaints from drivers.

Motorists travelling along Lichfield Street cannot go straight on or turn right at the town centre junction.

But the local authority needs to properly enforce another bus lane in nearby Hatherton Road, where scores of drivers have been caught flouting the restriction, before this can happen.

#### Unlikely

Officers are in the process of acquiring a mobile enforcement vehicle to crack down on motorists. Once the traffic is controlled on Hatherton Road, the council will be able to turn its attention to the ring road junction.

Bosses admit a final decision on opening up the Lichfield Street bus lane to all traffic is unlikely to be made until next summer.

### College plans lectures area

WALSALL College plans to build a new lecture theatre at its town site.

The proposed extension to the Wisemore campus will face on to the new concourse in front of the college building, screened by existing planting. There is a three-storey industrial building on the site, housing the college's music department, but it lacks a larger theatre and performance area.

The proposal is to create a lecture theatre to complement the existing building, but less than half its height.



John Tolley with his fire engine for sale outside his Walsall pub

## Two pints of lager and a fire appliance please

DRINKERS at a Walsall pub could be forgiven for thinking they have had one too many when they look out of the window to see a fire engine for sale.

As well as the usual pints, wines, spirits, pork scratchings and nuts, licensee of The Parkbrook in Wolverhampton Road, 69-year-old John Tolley, is also trying to drum up custom for a fire appliance.

#### Attention

Mr Tolley has decided to part with the vehicle after seven years of displaying it at motor shows across the region.

The appliance is now for sale in the car park of the pub, catching the eye of drivers and passers-by.

Grandfather Mr Tolley said the vehicle had originally been used by fire crews in Sandwich, Kent.

He said: "It's 28 years old and all operational. It's got the hoses, and the lights and

siren works. I've also got two firefighter uniforms. I became interested in fire engines because my nephew, Mark Sutton, was working for the fire service and had two of them.

Mr Tolley, who lives at The Parkbrook, where he has been the licensee for 29 years, has displayed his fire engine at motor shows across the Midlands, including at Walsall Arboretum, Wolverhampton and Derby.

Mr Tolley said the vehicle had only been put up for sale a fortnight ago but had already attracted the attention of passers-by.

He added: "I'm not selling it for a fixed price, it's open to offers. Someone wanted to buy the motor out of it but I don't really want to break it up."

"Someone else wanted to use it for a hen party but I don't want to sell it for that sort of thing if I can help it."

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# Warning from bishop on weakened church

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One of the reasons for the weakness of the Church is that lay leaders are not valued highly enough, according to the Bishop of Lichfield.

The Rt Rev Jonathan Gledhill told a packed Lichfield Cathedral that the Church had not valued its laity in the past and he called for a reversal of the emphasis which he says is put on ordained ministry.

It came as the Bishop of Lichfield licensed 24 new lay ministers to serve churches across the Diocese and welcomed a further four who have moved from other dioceses.

"It is my conviction that one of the reasons for our weakness as a Church is that we do not value our lay leaders and their ministries sufficiently and our Church has become over clericalised," he said.

"I pray that this service will be part of a reversing of that mistake and a recovery of the importance of lay leaders and other authorised lay ministries," the bishop added.

## Development

The Lichfield Diocese has also appointed a new director of lay development, Dr Lindsey Hall.

Dr Hall acknowledged that "some of the worst acts of human history have been carried out in the name of religion", but told the congregation that Christianity was still relevant.

"The people who have gathered here to be licensed and authorised as lay ministers believe that the Church matters," she said.

"Those of us who continue to serve in our various ministries and vocations believe that Christianity is relevant today.

"The values of the kingdom of God do not always translate easily into the world.

"It is easy to dismiss as irrelevant, that with which we refuse to engage and this is not unique to our own age.

"Many of the theologians of the past set about their work precisely because they wanted people to understand why the Gospel still mattered."

## Purple reigns at primary



Emily Ghetty and Jack Sawle, and fellow pupils show their new uniforms

It's all change at a Walsall school as pupils have a revamped uniform for the start of the school year.

Children at Lindens Primary School, in Streely now sport new purple sweatshirts. Their uniform is complete with white polo shirts, smart grey skirts or grey trousers.

Headteacher of the school, in Hundred Acre Road, Simon Griffiths said: "The children look wonderful. Smart, modern, a true representation of our outstanding

status achieved in February last year. During the first assembly of the year it was amazing to see a sea of purple with every child conforming to the new Lindens uniform."

He added: "The children are so proud to be bright and colourful and to learn in such a wonderfully stimulating learning environment."

On the first day back at school, staff also donned purple to show their support for the new uniform code.

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# Sims backs response by police during the riots

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West Midlands Chief Constable Chris Sims has robustly defended his police force's handling of the riots that swept across Wolverhampton, West Bromwich and Birmingham.

He denied his officers had been too slow to react and insisted his force began planning a response even before it had any intelligence that the looting and rioting in London might spread to Birmingham.

Mr Sims admitted he was "taken by surprise with the speed and intensity" of the disorder, but steps were taken to build up a police response and resources in case the region was affected by copycat riots.

## Heroic

Appearing before the committee alongside Assistant Chief Constable Sharon Rowe, who led the police response to last month's riots in the West Midlands, he said some of the "heroic policing activity" could be seen in places like Dudley and Walsall, where by putting scores of uniformed officers on the streets and working with community groups, police prevented disorder in other parts.

"Now that didn't prove possible in our three hotspots - the centre of Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton," he



Riots taking place in Wolverhampton city centre in August this year when crowds of looters targeted shops

said. "Given the information that I knew, did I do the right things? Did I act proportionately? I believe that I did."

"I believe our tactics were right."

Prime Minister David Cameron at the time said police did make mistakes over numbers and tactics - but also praised the bravery of officers. Describing the aftermath of the two days of violence across the second city and the Black Country, Mr Sims said: "Communities were in shock. They

were disgusted by what had happened. It felt as though it had been visited on our communities from outside."

"We saw that mood begin to alter and a growing sense of support for the police service. I've never in all my 30 years had so many people physically stop me and say thank you. We've had outpourings of all sorts of gifts for officers. It's been absolutely humbling. I think that's communities in the West Midlands wanting to come together,

wanting to sort of coalesce and making sure that this was a singular event rather than something that was continuing." Asked about the role social media played in the riots, Mr Sims described it as a "mixed force" and said he never considered closing sites such as Twitter or Facebook down.

"There was an awful lot of unhelpful rumour and gossip."

"There were also periods where social media was incredibly positive," he added.



West Midlands Chief Constable Chris Sims



West Midlands Police Assistant Chief Constable Sharon Rowe

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# Cameras to catch fly-tippers

Undercover cameras have been installed at six sites across Walsall as part of the ongoing war against fly-tipping. A total of £1,377 has been spent on the new cameras.

Council bosses have also improved the time it takes to clear away the unsightly waste down to three days from an average of nine just 12 months ago.

Environment chiefs said they were stepping up their campaign against the fly-tippers. In the past 12 months, the council has launched 152 fly-tipping investigations and served 74 waste enforcement notices.

The chiefs' action on residents and businesses will mean they have to clear

up accumulations of rubbish. Officers have also visited 232 commercial premises across the borough to inspect their waste collection and storage arrangements. More than 100 visits were made to business in Calldore alone.

Councillor Tom Ansell, cabinet member for the environment, said: "Our fight against environmental crime is an ongoing battle but we are determined to make a significant impact. As part of our Working Smarter initiative we have reduced the amount of time it takes to deal with a fly-tipping incident down to just over three days as opposed to just over nine days. This is something that makes a real

difference to the communities whose areas are being blighted by fly-tippers."

Almost half of all fly-tipping incidents this year have been reported on council roads, followed by 23 per cent on other council land. Household waste has been the most common blight, accounting for 40 per cent of fly-tipping. Just over a third of incidents have involved van loads of waste. Environment chiefs have spent £165,814 on clearance and disposal of fly-tipping in Walsall between April 2010 and March 2011.

Since April this year, three fly-tipping cases have come to court resulting in the perpetrators having to pay almost £3,000 in fines and costs.

## Mobility shop set to open

Three vacant retail units at Walsall town centre's Tesco store are poised to be taken over to help house the shop mobility scheme. An application for the support service and centre for independent living have been lodged.

The current shop mobility scheme in the Saddlers Centre is due to move at the end of next month. But a new permanent home is being earmarked for the Tesco site off St Paul's Street.

The service provides the likes of mobilised scooters to help people get around.

A statement in support of the application states: "The current shop mobility with the Saddlers Centre is closing on October 29, therefore requirement for these are still in place."

The business space was created as part of the £55 million scheme but there has been a slow take up of units. The supermarket, employing 230 workers, opened its doors on the former Walsall College campus site in St Paul's Street last December.

## Protests over turbine plan

More than 400 residents have signed petitions protesting against plans to create a wind turbine in Walsall.

The 220ft turbine is earmarked for land close to Rushall Canal, near Riddians Bridge, and has prompted concerns over its impact and noise pollution.

Residents and councillors from Aldridge, Hatherton, Rushall and Sheffield wards have joined forces to oppose the proposals.

A consultation period has ended and three petitions were submitted to Walsall Council about the application by Temporis Wind.

Opponents have organised a meeting at St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, today (Thursday), from 6.30-7.30pm.

Walsall Ramblers Association has backed the opposition and the co-ordinator, Councillor Mohammed Arif, said: "We will do everything possible to stop this development."

Temporis Wind was unavailable for comment.



Protesting residents including John Frankham, John Leeson and Alan Massey with Councillors Tom Ansell and Mohammed Arif outside Walsall Town Hall

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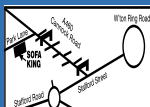
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## Chime to celebrate church bell repairs

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

The bells of an historic Walsall church will be ringing out for years to come after a £23,500 grant to repair them was secured.

Bell-ringers had launched an urgent £27,000 appeal to fix the bells at Rushall Parish Church. Their prayers were answered when they landed £23,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It means the bells will continue to chime for weddings, saints' days and services.

Repair work needs to be done to reinforce the framework on which the bells hang. And work to the all-important wooden wheels is also needed.

Colin Such, vicar of Rushall, said the grant had secured the long-term future of the bells.

"As a former bell-ringer I know the bells are welcomed by the local community, wedding couples and the bell ringing community," he said.

"The grant will enable the bells to be rung safely for the foreseeable future."

### Tradition

It is hoped that once the work is done more people will be encouraged to sign up as bell-ringers to keep the tradition going.

Ann Jones, one of the chief bell-ringers at the church in Leigh Road, said: "It is wonderful news. We are just waiting now for the people who are to do the work."

"We hope this will encourage more people to take up bell ringing."

Church members will also be working with students from Walsall College to document the restoration and repair as part of their media studies course.

A leaflet outlining the history of the bells and ringing at the church, also known as St Michael the Archangel, will also be produced.

The bells were cast by James Barwell and Son in Birmingham.

The church's youngest bell-ringer is aged just 15. Anyone interested in getting involved should call Ann Jones on 01922 645289.



Celebrating the £23,500 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund are, left to right, Ann Jones, John Vallance, The Rev Colin Such and Glenys Barnard

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# Helicopter patrols over M6

A POLICE helicopter has been ordered to patrol the skies over the M6 after metal thieves caused delays for hundreds of thousands of motorists.

The cable theft knocked out vital CCTV cameras, signs and signals between junction 10 for Walsall and 10A for Wolverhampton and the M54.

It means the hard shoulder, which is opened up during busy periods to ease the flow of traffic, has remained closed.

The problem caused extra congestion earlier this month and the High-

ways Agency said it still did not know when the signs would be fixed.

Workers attempted to reconnect cables ahead of the planned use of the hard shoulder during rush hour on September 12. It was revealed that the cables were stolen from under the motorway, with thieves forcing a hatch to access them.

The force helicopter is now being dispatched every night to keep an eye on traffic because the theft has disabled motorway cameras that link to a control room. The helicopter can also

use heat seeking equipment to spot suspicious activity.

James Lowth, of the Highways Agency, said: "These criminals have caused delays for travellers on the M6 at peak times and disrupted the essential freight deliveries upon which our economy relies. The scrap value of the cable is just a few pounds but it will now cost thousands of pounds to repair the damage."

Police officers have been trawling through hours of CCTV footage in a bid to catch the thieves.

## Scheme gets lottery cash boost

Walsall FC's community programme has been given a lottery grant of £9,130.

The money will be spent on healthy living and exercise sessions to tackle childhood obesity.

The project is a partnership with Walsall NHS about educating young people on healthy foods.

In total, 66 groups in the West Midlands benefited from a £539,157 pot from the Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All small grants programme.

John Taylor, Big Lottery Fund's head of the region, said: "Many of these initiatives are looking to improve people's health and well-being through exercise and education."

Other schemes to benefit include Body Image Dance, based in Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire. It received £9,905 to use dance and music as a way to tackle poor body image and eating disorders among youngsters.

In Birmingham, Castle Vale Community Regeneration Services received £9,400 to run a peer mentoring pilot for young people who are not in education, training or employment.

## Lord Baker visits £9.5m college

A new £9.5 million college created at the site of an axed Bloxwich secondary school received a visit from a former education secretary to mark its opening.

Former Conservative MP Lord Kenneth Baker dropped by to check out the Black Country University Technical College (UTC) in Vernon Way.

The specialist engineering college for 14 to 19-year-olds has been created in place of the former Sneyd Community School.

More than 120 pupils are now settling into life at the college, which is sponsored by Walsall College and Wolverhampton University.

Lord Baker, who is a firm supporter of UTCs and chairman of the Baker-Dearing Educational Trust, was given a guided tour and chatted to students.

Chris Hilton, principal of the Black Country UTC, said: "We are delighted to have Lord Baker visit the Black Country UTC in our first week of opening."

"The Black Country UTC provides an inspirational learning environment."



Students, left, Mwaka Musumba, aged 14, Adam Rogers, Jonathan Palmer, both 16, Primrose Mazendame and Sharla-Deanne Bennett-Jones, both 14, with Lord Baker at the new Black Country University Technical College in Bloxwich

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Sisters Eloise Watts, six, Emilia, nine, and Alyssa, 10

# Watts girls are lighting up the race for titles

walsallchronicle  
@expressandstar.co.uk  
SHE is one quarter of arguably Walsall's most successful beauty pageant family and this weekend Jessica Watts is hoping to take another crown.

Bloxwich teenager Jessica, aged 16, the current Miss Teen Walsall, will compete for the title of Miss Teen Great Britain at Sunday's grand final in Blackpool.

Her three younger cousins – Eloise, Emilia and Alyssa Watts – also compete in beauty pageants and have won 150 crowns and sashes between them.

And next month all four Watts girls will take part in the Miss English Diamonds pageant in Manchester.

## Modelling

This weekend, the Mayor of Walsall Councillor Garry Perry is travelling to Blackpool to support Jessica along with many family and friends and representatives from her sponsors, Aldridge-based Synergy Hair.

If she wins Jessica will take home £1,000 and be given a modelling portfolio with FAB Photoshoots.

Jessica's mum Carol said: "She is really looking forward to the experience."

"Jessica is proud that she's representing the town and we would like to think she'll do well."



Jess Watts goes for glory in Blackpool this weekend

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thechronicle

# Self-service: Read all about it

Self-service technology will be up and running at Walsall's Central Library this winter. The contract has now been awarded to carry out the £232,000 scheme, which it is claimed will free up staff to spend more time with customers.

Seventeen terminals are eventually due to be installed in the borough's seven main libraries.

Walsall Central Library, in Lichfield Street, will be first to have the new technology and Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston, Wilehall and the new Pelsall library will follow.

Tags are currently being placed on

200,000 books ahead of the installation of the terminals, being carried out by D-Tech International Ltd.

Leisure chief Councillor Anthony Harris said: "This is not about replacing staff with self service technology but about listening to our library customers."

## Instructions

The terminals will release staff from behind the counters to spend more time with customers answering their inquiries, offering more in-depth help and support, and running courses and groups.

The terminals, known as Radio Fre-

quency Identification Systems, will reduce the queues of people waiting to check items in and out and allow staff to locate books on the shelves, he said.

The machines will be able to issue and discharge books, check out other items available for hire, renew items, take payments and list reservations.

Customers will be given a receipt detailing payments they have made and the return date.

There will be simple on-screen instructions for users to follow.

Marvin Crisp, managing director of D-Tech, said: "We are delighted to have been chosen to work with Walsall Council."

## New life in neglected Pool area

An area of Bloxwich which was blighted by fly-tippers and anti-social behaviour has been cleaned up.

Bailey's Pool, in Sneyd Lane, was in such a state, Chapstow Estate Residents' Association decided to take action. The group secured a £37,922 grant from the Big Lottery's Community Spaces fund to revamp the site.

Disabled access, fishing platforms, pathways, benches, bins and secure gates have all been added.

Future events at the site will include a one-off bulb planting day involving local schools. There will also be training days run in partnership with local authorities, nature trail walks and possible a summer fete.

Project leader and residents' association secretary Erika Watkins said: "Bailey's Pool had become a rundown, ramshackle area which was used constantly by fly-tippers. We wanted a place people could enjoy. This has been an exciting project and it will be wonderful to use the site with local children now that it's finished."

## Historic foundry shows its metal

An historic Walsall foundry opened its doors to the public as part of the national Heritage Open Days scheme.

Chamberlin & Hill this year celebrates its 121st anniversary. The company manufactures castings for vehicle parts for some of the biggest names in the motoring industry.

And more than 40 people took advantage of the chance to see the foundry in Chucky Road, Chucky, Walsall.

It is the fourth time the firm has got involved with the Open Days scheme, and guests included Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz.

Places had to be booked in advance and all were snapped up by eager residents keen on a tour of the long-standing company.

Chamberlin & Hill liaison officer David Morgan said the event was a celebration of manufacturing and tradition.

"It was a real eye-opener for visitors. They didn't realise how technical it was," he said. "A lot said how fascinating and interesting it was."



MP Valerie Vaz tours Chamberlin & Hill foundry in Walsall, with the company's managing director, Andrew Ward

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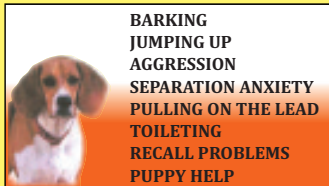
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## COMPETITION

thechronicle

# On track for cycle birthday

THE Cycle Show is back for 2011, celebrating its 10th birthday this year at its new home at the NEC, Birmingham.

With some of the world's most desirable brands in cycling exhibiting this year, visitors will be able to grab a sneak preview of the latest bikes, accessories and fashions.

Whether you are looking for the latest innovations from specialist brands, wanting to try out a new mountain bike or see highly skilled BMX riders perform, the Cycle Show offers an amazing day out for everyone.

Not only will you get to see the latest across all genres of cycling, but this year's show, which takes place at the NEC Birmingham from September 30 to October 2, will also offer you the chance to try out the latest bikes for 2012 on two brand new outdoor demo tracks.

## Unique

And the organisers have teamed up with the Chronicle series to offer 10 readers the chance to win a pair of tickets.

With more outside space than ever before this year, Cycle Show organisers have joined forces with Birmingham's NEC to build and jointly fund a 1km outdoor mountain bike demo track. A first for the Cycle Show, it will offer a unique opportunity to test out the latest 2012 mountain bike ranges on a permanent track. The track will be staying for good, giving bike fanatics the opportunity to ride it regularly.

Cycle Show 2011 will also see the introduction of a 600m road demo track, perfect for commuters and road bikers wanting to test out the latest bikes.

For tickets go to [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or call 0844 338 8000 to get tickets now. Advance adult tickets cost £12.50 (£15.50 on door), £10.50 for concessions, £6.50 for children and entry is free to under 5s. Special offers are available for advance group bookings. Go to [www.cycleshow.co.uk](http://www.cycleshow.co.uk)



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Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number (only one entry per household to Cycle Show competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Monday, September 26. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.



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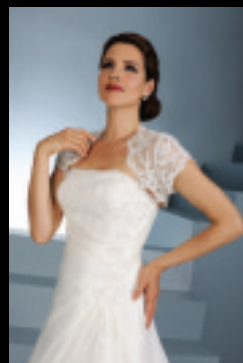
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# Wages go up for staff in care service

Pay rates for social workers in Walsall are to be increased after it was revealed almost £3.8 million was spent on agency staff in the last three years. It also emerged that the council has 40 temporary social workers on its books.

Of this number, 36 are working with children and four in adult services. The figures were revealed under the Freedom of Information Act. The chairman of the council's children's and young people scrutiny panel, Councillor Barbara Cassidy, said efforts were now in

hand to review the pay with the aim of attracting greater numbers of permanent staff and retaining them.

Labour's Councillor Cassidy said a professional job analyst has been hired by the authority to assist with the pay restructuring in the department.

Earlier this year, Labour councillors called for pay levels to be increased in a bid to attract more permanent staff.

This would result in a reduction of the number of agency workers being hired.

Councillor Cassidy claimed the borough's social workers were earning 30 per cent less than those working for Staffordshire County Council.

"I am satisfied that matters are being addressed as they should be and hope that we will have a real downward push in the amount that is spent on agency social workers," she said.

## Anomalies

"Following the pay and grading review which has taken place at most councils there were anomalies in the pay scales for social workers which needed to be addressed.

"As a result a second review is being carried out and a plan is being prepared for a recruitment campaign.

"The aim is to get Walsall offering very competitive rates which will see the borough on a par with Coventry City Council which has the highest pay levels for social workers in the region.

"We also have well-managed case loads."

## Golfers aim for cash gain

WALSALL Golf Club will be a hive of activity next Monday when it holds its Captain's Charity Day.

The fund-raiser is in aid of The Salvation Army and ABF The Soldiers Charity.

Prizes include use of a holiday home in France for a week, and a trip to Buckingham Palace. Details from 01922 613512.



Rushall Olympic's Lucan Spittle who raised funds with a charity skydive for Acorns Children's Hospice

## Sky's the limit for leap by footballer

A Rushall Olympic footballer who has played for teams across the Midlands took the plunge in a skydive and raised around £700 for a Birmingham and Black Country children's hospice charity.

Lucan Spittle plunged 10,000ft out of a plane at Hinton Airfield in Northamptonshire.

## Housing

The 30-year-old, from Bilston, signed up to the challenge to support Acorns Children's Hospice, which cares for almost 600 children in its three hospices in Walsley Road, Walsall;

Selly Oak, Birmingham; and Worcester.

Lucan, who has played for seven football clubs including Wolverhampton United, Willenhall Town and Stourbridge FC, said:

"I'm a bit of an adrenaline junkie anyway but it was the best thing I've done by far."

Visit [www.justgiving.com/lucan-spittle](http://www.justgiving.com/lucan-spittle) to donate.

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thechronicle

# Work is well under way at arboretum

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

The fourth phase of the £7.6 million restoration of Walsall Arboretum has started as park users were warned they will face some disruptions.

The £1.7m phase of work is due to last for 12 months. A small section of the park is now closed to pedestrians as the scheme, which will see large swathes of the park landscaped, forges ahead.

New park benches are set to be installed with existing benches repaired.

There will also be new litter bins and signs, footpaths will be repaired and resurfaced, while some new ones will be created.

Some of the park's best known areas, including the clock tower entrance green, Hatherton Lake, disused tennis courts, old tea garden and former nursery will be landscaped.

The park's tennis courts will be refurbished and the Broadway toilet blocks, adjacent to the clock tower, will be demolished.

### Boundary

Work will also be done to entrance gates, boundary walls, railings and brook bridges.

Leisure chief Councillor Anthony Harris said: "We asked contractors to avoid the peak summer holiday period and while we appreciate that there will be some disruption for arboretum users this will be kept to a minimum."

"Their health and safety is paramount during this busy phase of work."

"We will communicate regularly with residents and visitors and there will be updated signs on site to inform users of the progress made and any areas that will require temporary closure."

The first area to be affected will be the Lion's Den which is now closed to the public. It is the area behind The Park Tavern pub and Hydesville Tower School on the Broadway.

The area will be fenced off along the Broadwalk, the main footpath through the park, along the length of the ladies bowls pavilion to the rose garden.



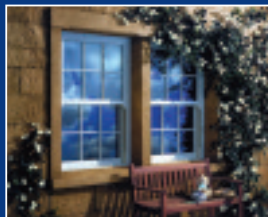
Progress - supervisor Kevin Pearson, front left, Greenspace co-ordinator Sam Mill, Arboretum User Group member Richard Pollard, chair Jo Lester and member Jackie Cockock, top left, with project manager Louise Harris

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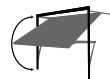
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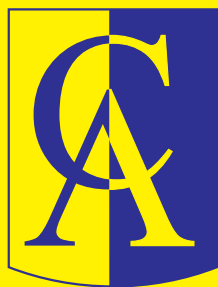
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Weight Watchers slimmers pose ahead of their charity fashion show

## Slimmers scale height of fashion

SLIMMERS from Wolverhampton and Willenhall showed off their new figures at a fashion show at St Giles Church Hall, Willenhall. It was the brainchild of Weight Watchers group leader Emma Eardley, who wanted her members to have something to aim for.

Nine slimmers from groups in Wolverhampton, Wednesfield and Willenhall modelled dresses and tuxedos loaned by Walsall shops Audrey's Dream Dresses and Duncan James in front of a 100-strong audience, including the mayor of Walsall, Councillor Garry Perry. The evening raised more than £300 for Compton Hospice. Before photos were shown on a big screen when stories of how the models overcame their demons to lose weight were told. Mrs Eardley said it was an emotional night.

She added: "It was a big motivation to our members and did wonders for their confidence. They're on an emotional journey but they all believed in themselves and it was rewarding for me personally to see them do so well."

The models were Peter Ecclestone, Lisa Gough, Becki Lister, Leanne Clarke, Nel Howell, Holly Morris, Kerrie Bartle, Rhonda Hanna and Rob Price.

Mrs Eardley also holds classes in Darlaston, Wednesbury, Bilston and West Bromwich. Visit [www.weight-watchers.co.uk](http://www.weight-watchers.co.uk) or call her on 07931 328777.

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# Wheels in motion to complete red route

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The final phase of work to create a red route on Walsall's ring road will start next week, with drivers set to face six weeks of disruptions.

Double red lines will be introduced on the remaining stretch of the Broadway, Bescot Road, Pleck Road and along to Rolling Mill Street to prevent cars from stopping.

The restrictions are already in place along Broadway North but this will be extended onto Broadway West, which runs towards Junction 9 of the M6.

It comes after the A454 Wolverhampton Road was converted into a red route earlier this year and Bloxwich High Street last year.

Lane closures will be in place but council chiefs insist work will take place on an evening and off peak periods to minimise disruption.

Under the package of improvements over the next month-and-a-half other work is planned including replacing damaged guard railings at the Broadway United Reformed Church and refurbishing a crossing at Princess Avenue over the October half-term period.

## Stretches

The aim is to prevent cars stopping and clogging up busy stretches. The plans have prompted some criticism in the past from businesses.

But transport chief councillor Tom Ansell said: "Red routes aim to improve the flow of traffic on some of the most heavily used roads with specific proposals to meet the needs of the local area."

It is expected to cost around £400,000. It has been in the pipeline for several years and the work will now start.

The routes have attracted criticism from retailers who say they prevent potential customers stopping outside their shops.

Similar work took place along the A454 Wolverhampton Road and saw street and lane closures while the 34-week scheme was carried out.

## Tim's close shave for charity



Tim Webb has his hair cut by healthcare assistant Fran Nichols and his legs waxed by student nurse Alison Rose

A pharmacist has had his flowing brown locks shaved off for a good cause. Tim Webb, who works at the Co-op Pharmacy in Walsall Road Great Barr, had a colleague cut his hair to support Mencap – and raised more than £300.

He also had both of his legs waxed while customers watched. Staff at the pharmacy persuaded the 33-

year-old Solihull resident to grow and then have his hair shaved.

Co-op Pharmacy supervisor Sharon Butterfield said: "It had to be Tim. There is only one other male worker and he did not want to do it. But Tim was game for a laugh."

Later on in the year the Co-op Pharmacy will also be raffling toiletries to raise extra cash for Mencap.

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# Woman, 63, dies in house fire

A 63-year-old woman has died after a fire in the bedroom of her Aldridge home.

The woman, named by neighbours as Lynn Luke, was pulled from an end-terrace property in Greenwood Road, by firefighters. She was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital where she later died. Neighbours spoke of their shock after the blaze broke out on September 12. Thick and acrid smoke was spotted pouring out of the bedroom window.

Next door neighbour Lin Moore, aged 65, a retired leather preparer, said: "Lynn had lived next door to us ever since we moved here in 1978. We

didn't know anything was wrong until another neighbour banged on our door. We could see the smoke coming from the bedroom window." She said Mrs Luke was bedridden after her health deteriorated in recent years.

Retired carer Jennifer Wright, 61, also of Greenwood Road, said she had known Mrs Luke for 35 years.

## Advanced

"It's very upsetting and I'm still in shock. She was a very nice woman."

Firefighters from Walsall, Bloxwich and Aldridge were called to the scene at 3.15pm. Aldridge watch com-

mander Rob Evans said: "The lady was rescued by fire service personnel. She was unconscious when we found her. The fire was confined to the bedroom."

Paramedics arrived to find the woman being given CPR by firefighters.

Ambulance spokesman Murray Gregor said: "Ambulance crews immediately took over the resuscitation attempts and used their advanced skills. Their efforts continued en route to Walsall Manor Hospital.

"Despite the best efforts of ambulance personnel and hospital medics, nothing could be done to save her."

## Best of burlesque from Pin-Ups

Dancers from the West Midlands are making a name for themselves with their new "cheesecake" burlesque show.

Vintage-themed dance group The Pin-Ups, made up of six dancers and performers from across the region, are limbering up to perform one of their biggest shows at Birmingham's Star City next month.

Each of the girls adopts a different pin-up character, as they dance, sing and show off circus skills at venues across the country. Pin-Ups founder Gemma Bird, aged 24, of Aldridge, said: "I came up with the idea originally and nine months ago auditioned for people to join. We do cheesecake burlesque, which is more chintzy and cute whereas classic burlesque is a bit more naughty."

The Pin-Ups is also made up of Kate Stallard, aged 20, of Walsall; Laura Fleming, 20, of Solihull; Hayley Clibbery, 22 of Streetly; 21-year-old Lauren Parker, 21, of Walsall and Jade Howells, 24, of Tipton and will perform as part of Wink, a show the casino at Star City on October 1.

To find out more about the group, visit [www.thepinups.co.uk](http://www.thepinups.co.uk)



Family-friendly entertainment – Laura Fleming, founder Gemma Bird, Kate Stallard, Hayley Clibbery and front, Lauren Parker have formed The Pin-Ups

## Hairdo for free is new salon offer

A new beauty studio in Darlaston is already proving to be a cut above after pledging to donate all funds from its grand opening to charity.

In-Style Studios, in Pinfold Street, will be opened this Saturday, September 24, by beauty queen Sarah Jones to raise funds for the Acorns children's charity.

The studio, which offers everything from treatments to modelling shoots has worked alongside Walsall College to recruit new team members.

Asda has also shown its support for a local venture by offering the studio a free information stand in store.

During the opening all haircuts will be free of charge, but donations to Acorns are encouraged.

Each contribution will be rewarded with a raffle ticket where the winner will win a free pamper day, which includes a hair and beauty treatment, photo shoot and massage of their choice.

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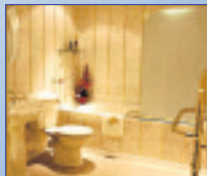
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thechronicle

GAMES

GAMES

# Get into Gears



Rudely interrupted from growing radishes by alien invaders, Delta Squad are back in action in Gears of War 3 (Epic/Microsoft, 18)

The Gears franchise stays successful but sticking to what it does best, allowing beefcake space marines to kick alien butt with an array of ridiculously oversized weapons. You get plenty of bang for your buck with Gears.

This third instalment sees Fenix and the rest of the COG soldiers cooling their heels on a rusty old ocean barge, having apparently lost the war against the alien Locusts and Lambent. But the sudden return of the dodgy Chairman Prescott, with the alien hordes in hot pursuit, sends Delta Squad on a mission to rescue Fenix's scientist father, thought dead but who may have found a way to defeat the aliens.

The old stalwarts are back, including Baird and Dom, the latter most disgruntled that he is torn away from tending to his radishes, which seems to be the squad's main food source.

Gears of War 3 looks great, the dialogue is clichéd and peppered with expletives but crucially it delivers non-

stop action. Both hardcore fans and casual gamers are catered for, with lots of different modes for multi-player match-ups. Epic have dedicated servers for the expected surge of Gears online action. Rookies can choose the casual setting to breeze through the day-long campaign.

Epic's design director Cliff Bleszinski has always said that "Gears isn't Shakespeare". In fact, you can get the makers' mindset from the fact that the Lambent are designed to explode with a sickly yellow splat when killed. Gears 3 is a blast, in fact, it's lots of blasts.

Available for Xbox 360 only.

## Dead Island (Deep Silver, 18)

A luxury hotel vacation on a tropical island becomes the holiday from hell in this satisfying action-horror game.

After a slow start when you would do well to pick up as many useful objects as possible, the zombie onslaught comes thick and fast... very fast.

Dead Island will become a must for zombie slaying survivalists because of the ability to improvise and modify weaponry to use against the ravenous ghouls. Dead good.

It is available for Xbox 360, Playstation 3 and PC.

## Driver San Francisco (Ubisoft, 12)

Bullitt meets Life On Mars in this twist on driving games.

You play an undercover cop determined to capture an escaping master criminal on the streets of San Francisco. But when the crook engineers a crash that leaves you in a coma, the chase continues in your head in an imaginary Frisco where street signs give you helpful hints about your true condition, like WAKE UP! But it does let you shift into the bodies of other drivers to gain access to their wheels.

The mystical stuff isn't necessary because most driving fans will be satisfied to be at the wheel of a powerful sports car (more than 100 are available) and have an open-world San Francisco at their disposal. Those hills were surely made to test suspension. DSF is available for Xbox 360, PS3, Wii and PC.

All these titles were reviewed on Xbox 360.

Leon Burakowski

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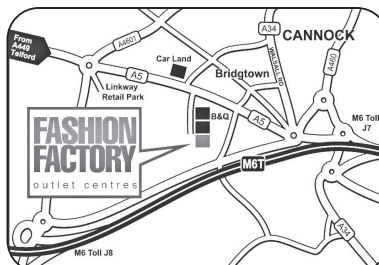
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#### SPECIAL EVENT HOURS:

Friday 16th September .....10am-6pm

Saturday 17th September ...10am-6pm

Sunday 18th September ....11am-5pm

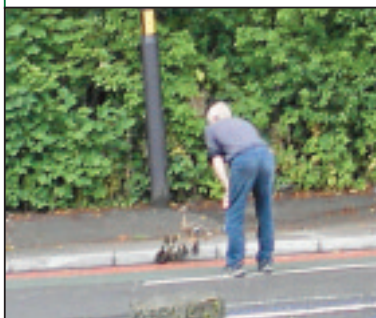


# snappers claim to frame

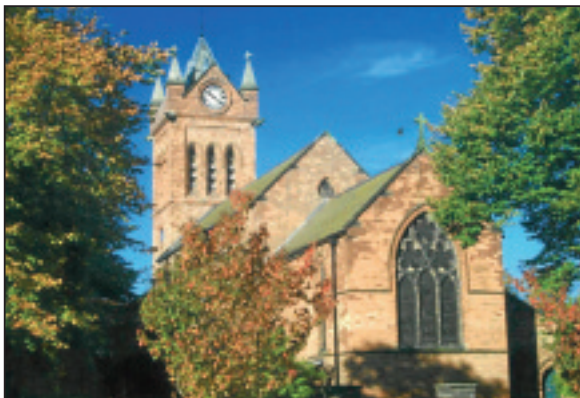


June Richards spotted Mrs Mallard and her chicks in Glenelg Mews, then Birmingham Road, where they were ushered to safety by a passer by

Pictures sent in this week by June Richards, of Walsall, Dennis Street, of Rushall, and John Bird, of Little Bloxwich



Walsall Arboretum, by Dennis Street



All Saints Parish Church, Bloxwich, by John Bird

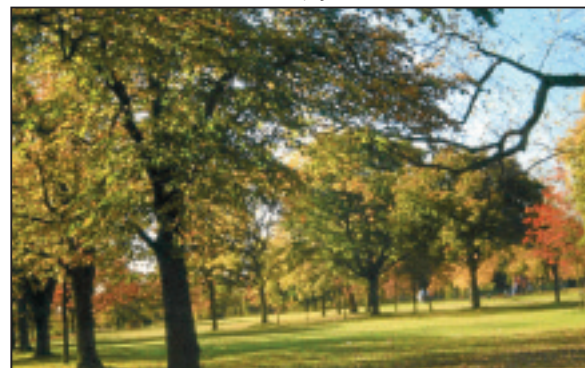
## Pictures of life in the borough

ARE you a snazzy snapper, a lord of the lens or a diva of the digital print? Think you can do better than these pictures? If you can, why not share your snaps of the borough?

There is no limit on the age or the subject – all we ask is that photos be as sharp and clear as possible and of reasonable quality for publication, featuring some area or aspect of Walsall and its life.

Send photos in with your, name, address and contact number and a brief description of what the picture shows.

We would like to hear about any interesting tales or stories attached to the photograph. Send them in either as a hard copy or electronically and we'll do the rest. So get those cameras snapping, dig out those dusty old albums and email them to [walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk) or send them by post to Snappers Claim to Frame, Walsall Chronicle, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



Pelsall Common bathed in autumn sunshine, by John Bird

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## Ponytail days behind Adam

You are never too young to start helping others, as a seven-year-old from Bloxwich has demonstrated.

Adam Purchase, of Glastonbury Crescent, is hoping to raise £1,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support as a way of saying thank you for the care his grandfather Sidney got before he died of cancer nearly a year ago.

Adam, who lives with his father, Jason, 37, mother Lynda Bishop, 37, and brother

Martin, 17, started growing the ponytail about 12 months ago and has grown it about eight inches long to raise cash for the charity.

He helped to organise an event at Cheslyn Hay Community & Sports Club in Station Street, last week, where he ceremoniously cut the hair off during the activities of singing performances and a raffle.

Dad Jason said: "We are very proud of him."



Hair today, gone tomorrow for Adam Purchase

## Artist's mural is midnight magic



Mason King, aged 13, of Tamworth, checks out work by artist Graham Colledge, of Oldbury, along with Acorns staff nurses Sarah Berisha and Neil Evans

A talented artist from the Midlands has been putting his skills to good use – painting a mural at a Black Country hospice which saw him working long into the night.

Graham Colledge from Oldbury created the mural on a wall at Acorns Children's Hospice in Walsall. He worked until midnight to make sure the magic-themed montage was ready to go.

It got a big thumbs up from children at the Walstead Road hospice, in Delves, including Mason King, aged 13, who said: "It's cool – it's colourful."

### Respond

Acorns staff nurse Sarah Berisha spotted Mr Colledge's work and invited him to add a splash of colour to the hospice.

"It was kind of Graham to respond to the appeal and volunteer to bring his paints and create his painting on the wall of our lounge," she said.

"The children love it."

Mr Colledge, of Sweetart Murals, started out as a painter for Mercedes Benz.

To find out more about the work of Acorns call Acorns on 0845 120 6892.

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## Glenn's hitting the right notes on acoustic set



Robin 2 date for Glenn Tilbrook (pic by Danny Clifford)

ONE of the UK's favourite singer/songwriters, Glenn Tilbrook, is coming to Bilston's Robin 2 venue as part of his acoustic tour of the country. The Londoner's career began with new wave band Squeeze in the 1970s, which also featured Jools Holland on keyboards. His work with the band and solo performances has spanned 30 years, spawning top 10 hits all around the world such as Cool For Cats, Tempted and Up The Junction.

With his two solo albums, The Incomplete Glenn Tilbrook and Transatlantic Ping-Pong, he proved he's lost none of the keen observation of real life that became Squeeze's trademark.

For 2009's album Pandemonium Ensues, he injected some fresh faces by recruiting new band The Fluffers and some prestigious guests in the shape of movie star couple Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis.

The Acoustic Tour 2011 will be different from anything that Glenn has previously done before.

While the first half will simply be Glenn on his own, the second half will see him joined by two musicians, Simon Hanson (who drummed with both Squeeze and The Fluffers) and Chris McNally, featuring percussion, acoustic guitars, ukeleles, Indian harmonium, bass and iPads. As well as performing songs from his back catalogue, Glenn will be showcasing new unreleased solo material and music from The Co-Operative, Glenn's collaboration with rhythm and blues band Nine Below Zero.

Call the box office on 01902 401211 or visit the [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk) website.

## Return journey to the fields of battle

FRESH from its West End run at the Duke of York's Theatre, the award-winning RC Sheriff's First World War drama *Journey's End* will be staged at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre next month.

This acclaimed and poignantly understated evocation of war was nominated for an Olivier and won both Tony and Drama Desk awards. It is directed by David Grindley and is staged at the Grand from October 4 to 8.

It is set in the British trenches at St Quentin in 1918 in the days leading up to the last great German Offensive of the war, a day that saw the deaths of 38,000 men.

Written in the 1920s and

based on the author's own experience of life in the trenches, it is about courage in the face of tragedy but does not flinch from horrors of war and celebrating the real men who fought it.

It tells the story of a company of officers preparing for a daring raid across No Man's Land to gather intelligence. Neither pacifist or patriotic, the play contrasts the enthusiastic teenaged new arrival Second Lieutenant Raleigh with his former school friend Captain Stanhope, left world-weary by three years of war.

Contact the box office on 01902 429212 or go to [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)



Simon Dutton (left) and Graham Butler in the play

# Magical moments around the region's main theatres

BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet brings its fairytale *Beauty and the Beast* to the city's Hippodrome theatre from Wednesday to Sunday, September 28 to October 2. David Bintley's production is a blend of rich choreography with sumptuous sets and costumes, plus a touch of magic.

The company follows with *Autumn Glory* (October 6-8), three, one act ballets including Ninette de Valois's chess-themed *Checkmate*, Frederick Ashton's *Symphonic Variations* and the comic *Pineapple Poll*, danced to a medley of Gilbert and Sullivan favourites.

Meanwhile, it is the last chance to catch Bill Kenwright's touring production of *Evita* at the Hippodrome until Saturday.

Bill Geraghty plays two rock 'n' roll legends - Buddy Holly and Jerry Lee Lewis - in *Buddy Vs The Killer* at Wolverhampton Grand tonight (Thursday) to Saturday.

Birmingham Rep has linked productions of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Tom Stoppard's Wilde homage *Travesties* at The Old Rep on Station Street to October 22. Check with the box office on 0121 236 4455 to find out what play on which night.



Buddy Vs The Killer is playing at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre tonight

Birmingham Stage Company, a group well-known for its plays for children, brings the first major production of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* to the New Alex in Birmingham until Saturday.

Meanwhile, *Marty Wilde* is in concert at the Alex on Monday, and 3D takes a surprising new direction when those Aussie exhibitionists bring *Puppetry of the Penis 3D* to the Alex on Tuesday for one night.

*Roy 'Chubby' Brown* will no doubt have a comment on that when he brings his show to the venue the following night. Trevor Littledale plays Sir Alec Guinness reflecting on his career in *Two Halves of*

*Guinness* at the Arena Theatre in Wolverhampton tonight (Thursday). Meanwhile, Mark Whiteley looks back on 17 years as a television bit part actor in the light-hearted *When Will I Be Famous?* At the Arena tomorrow (Friday), Guy Masterson explores the character of *Shylock* from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* at the Arena on Wednesday, September 28.

All and Sundry presents Harold Brighouse's classic comedy about an ambitious daughter and her tyrannical father, *Hobson's Choice*, to Birmingham's Crescent Theatre nightly to Saturday, when there is also a matinee.

## Will's back on the road with Echoes tour

TEN years on from his first Pop Idol audition, Will Young is back at the forefront of the UK pop scene with his latest album, the soulful *Echoes*, and a 23-date UK tour, including a concert at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Sunday, November 20.

*Echoes* - featuring the hit single *Jealousy* - is his follow-up to the platinum-selling *Hits* collection and is his fifth studio album. He has written all but one song on *Echoes* which is produced by Richard X.

Will has been dividing his time between music and acting, with a starring role in Sky TV supernatural thriller *Bedlam* and a guest appearance in C4's teen drama *Skins*. He also found time to train and then run in this year's London Marathon in aid of the Catch 22 charity.



UK tour for Will Young

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# Saturday TV

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Digital



## THE JONATHAN ROSS SHOW

ITV1, 9.15pm

Whether or not Ross has the pulling or crying power to front a Saturday night prime time chat show now, he is still under debate. Also under scrutiny is his move from the BBC to ITV, and whether it will be a success, or if he will end up in the same boat as Des Lynam, Michael Parkinson, and Mervyn Dunsford. However, Jonathan's guests recently have been quite impressive, and tonight is no exception. First up, convincing actress Helen Mirren will be discussing her latest film *The Debt*. Then a track or two from rock band Kasabian.

**6.00 Breakfast** **10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live** **11.30 Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking** (F) **12.00 BBC News** Regional News; Weather. **12.15 Football Focus** **1.00 Cycling** **2.00 Formula 1: The Singapore Grand Prix - Qualifying** From the Marina Bay Street Circuit (Start time 3.00pm). **4.30 First Score** **5.00 BBC News** Regional News; Weather. **5.30 Elio Wrt**

**6.10 Celebrity Election Chat** Catching up with the week's events in the kitchen. **7.10 Doctor Who: The Time Lord visits his old friend Craig Owens** (James Corden). **7.30 The Hundred Lottery: Secret Fortune** Quiz show. **8.15 Comedy** Recovering drug addict Chloe returns to the ED for treatment of a blood clot in her leg. **9.35 Live at the Apollo** Al Murray hosts the stand-up comedy show from the Hammersmith Apollo, and welcomes guests: Chris Addison and Tim Vine. (F) **10.05 BBC News** **10.25 The Book of the Day** Including highlights of Stoke City v Manchester United National Lottery Update. **11.30 The Football League Show** Highlights from the Championship, League One and League Two. **1.05 Weather** **1.10 BBC News**

**6.00 CBeebies** **7.00 CBBC** **12.00 Homes Under the Hammer** (F) **1.30 Film: Rumpole** (1993) Romantic adventure, starring Robert Mitchum. **2.05 Film: Krakatoa, East of Java** (1998) Disaster movie, starring

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**Maximilian Schell** **9.10 Escape to the Country** (F) **9.30 Match of the Day Live** Arsenal v Nottingham Forest (Kick-off 5.15pm).

**7.15 Play M** Antique hunting in Buckinghamshire. (F) **7.25 Dads Army** The caped claudes a runaway. **8.15 The 2011 Festival of British News** Documentary exploring the impact of the post-war event.

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**6.00 Live Rugby: World Cup** England v Romania (Kick-off 7.00am). **6.30 Live Rugby: World Cup** New Zealand v France (Kick-off 9.30am). **12.00 ITV News** Weather. **12.30 Coronation Street** **2.30 The X Factor** (F) **3.30 People Do the Funniest Things Aboard** (F) **4.35 Rugby: World Cup Highlights** **5.35 Regional Programmes** **5.55 ITV News** Weather.

**6.00 How You're Doing** **7.00 All Star Family Fortune** With comedian Russell Kane and EastEnders star Rita Simons. **8.00 The X Factor** The first of two boot camp specials. **9.15 The Jonathan Ross Show** With Helen Mirren, Harry Hill, Louis Spence and Kasabian.

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# Sunday TV

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Channel 4

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Digital



## ANTIQUE SHOW ROADSHOW

BBC1, 8pm  
The key to this show's success is its simplicity. The Roadshow tour offers members of the local community an opportunity to turn up, get on TV and possibly uncover a fortune that has been buried in their loft for decades. In its time the show has unearthed some truly astonishing finds that may have remained locked up in their owners' homes were it not for the arrival of the cascade of antique connoisseurs and valuers. In this week's offering, Fiona Bruce and the expert visit Chateaux Park, near Stratford-upon-Avon, to value the items brought forth. They include gold boxes, and a royal gift.

**6.00 Breakfast** 23.5 Match of the Day (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show** 10.00 Sunday Morning Live **11.00 The Politics Show** Weather for the Week Ahead **12.00 Formula 1: The Singapore Grand Prix - Live** Coverage from the Marina Bay Street Circuit (Starttime 10.00pm) **3.30 A Question of Sport** (R) **6.00 Deadly 60** on a Mission **6.30 Planet Dinosaurs** (R) **8.00 Songs of Praise - 30 Amazing Years** 23.5 BBC News; Regional News; Weather

**6.00 Homer's Hobbies** **Bobson** A tiny walking in need of a foster mother. Last in the series.

**7.00 Countryfile** Matt Baker visits the world's largest collection of fruit trees.

**8.00 Audrey's Reminiscence** From Chateaux Park, near Stratford-upon-Avon.

**8.00 Special** A laptop containing information of M5's undercover agents is stolen.

**9.00 BBC's Royal News** **10.00 Regional Programme** **10.30 Omnibus** Ben has an eventful school parents' evening (R)

**11.25 Ant & Dec's Night** With David Hazzardoff, Kimberly Wyatt and Phil Jupitus (R)

**12.00 Film: The Lonely Guy** (1984) Comedy with Steve Martin and Charles Grodin **12.30 Weather** **1.30 Sign Zone** **Dragon's Den** (R) **2.30 Holly City** (R) **3.30 Antiques Road Trip** (R) **6.15 BBC News**

**6.00 CBeebies** **2.00 CBBC** **2.15 Athletics** Live coverage of the Berlin Marathon **10.15 Something for the Weekend** **11.15 The Great British Bake Off** The remaining bakers test their delectable skills (R) **1.15**

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**EastEnders** **3.00 Cycling** **3.00 Rugby League**

**6.00 Dragon's Den: How to Win in the Den** Advice on succeeding in front of the Dragons (R)

**7.00 Top Gear** Three luxurious vehicles are tested in Albania (R)

**8.00 A South American Journey with Jonathan Dimbleby** The broadcaster continues his journey in Colombia and Venezuela

**9.00 Fry's Planet of the Apes** New series. Stephen Fry explores the history of language.

**10.00 Elmo of the Day 2** Highlights of Queen's Park Rangers v Aston Villa.

**10.30 Elmo of the Day** With Greg Davies, Simon Evans and Midge Flanagan. Hosted by Dara O'Brian (R)

**11.00 Film: How to Succeed in Business** (1993) Action thriller, starring Wesley Snipes

**11.30 BBC News** **6.15 Close**

**8.00 Live Rugby: World Cup** Argentina v Scotland (Kick-off 8.30am) **11.00 ITV News** Weather **11.15 Film: Thunderbolt** (2004) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bill Fothergill **12.30 The X Factor** (R) **2.30 Midwinter Murders** (R) **3.45 Down to Earth** (R) **5.15 Rugby: World Cup Highlights**

**6.00 Regional Programmes** **6.15 ITV News: Weather** **6.30 Holding Over a Horse** Three more contestants take part

**7.00 The X Factor** The hopefuls continue in their attempts to impress Gary Barlow, Louis Walsh, Kelly Rowland and Tulisa Contostavlos, who reveal which acts have made it through to the judges' houses

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**6.00 Donuts Ahoy** Caron is mortified when he suffers a panic attack in front of the family

**9.15 The Sunday Night Show** New series. Action from the fourth round of fixtures

**10.15 ITV News: Weather** **11.00 Elmo of the Day** (R)

**12.00 Premiership Rugby Union** Action from the fourth round of fixtures

**12.30 The Zone** (R) **1.30 News Headlines** **2.00 Motorport UK** **2.35 ITV News** **3.00 Countdown** (R)

**6.35 The Trade People** (R) **6.45 The Hoobs** (R) **7.00 UK School Games 2011** **8.00 T4: One Tree Hill** (R) **8.45 T4: Battlefront** **9.00 T4: Hollywood** **10.30 T4: Ibiza Rocks** **11.00 T4: The Big Bang Theory** (R) **12.15 T4: The Big Bang Theory** (R) **1.00 Film: T4: One Fine Day** (1990) Romantic comedy, starring George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer **3.05 T4: The Simpsons** (R) **3.40 T4: The Simpsons** (R) **4.15 Deal or No Deal** **5.15 Deal or No Deal** The live of the UK's wealthiest rugby squad

**6.15 Channel 4 News** **6.35 The Tonight Show**

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**6.30 Film: The Originals** **7.00 The X Factor** (2009) Premier. Superhero adventure prequel, starring Hugh Jackman

**7.00 Fighting on the Front Line**

**9.00 Film: The Hit** (1987) Sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger

**10.00 Dylan Moran: Aim Low** (R) **10.10 American Football Live** **6.15 MSA Formula Ford Championship** (R) **6.15 Brief Encounter of the Sporting Mind: Ultimate Fridge** (R) **6.30 Brief Encounter of the Sporting Mind: Sheepdog** (R) **6.35 Countdown** (R)

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**Channel 5** 6:00 *Michael* 6:15 *The Wrights* 11:15 *U.S. with Gailly* 12:05 *S. News* 1:00 *Lundtime* 12:15 *Big Brother* (R) 1:15 *Home and Away* 1:35 *Neighbours* 2:15 *CSI: Miami* (R) 3:30 *The Family Reunion* (R) 3:55 *First Love* 4:00 *Wired* (2009) 5:00 *S. News* at 5:30 *Neighbours* (R) 6:00 *Home and Away* (R) 6:30 *The 39th Step* 7:00 *S. News* 7:15 *First Love* 7:30 *S. News* 7:45 *The Gadget Show* 8:00 *S. News* 8:15 *Jack the Ripper - The Definitive Story* (R) 8:30 *Big Brother* 11:00 *Big Brother* 11:30 *On the Spot* 12:00 *Extraordinary People: The World's Strongest Tinkler* (R) 12:15 *Super Cadmo* 1:05 *Life in Moments* (R) 1:15 *One's America* 5:00 *City Secrets* (R) 5:30 *Wife SOS* (R) 5:35 *House Doctor* (R)

Visit our website [www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk](http://www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk)  
**Freephone 0800 389 128**

## Tuesday

[illegible]

**Wilcox** 75 Stafford Street Walsall WS2 8DP  
Tel: 01922 626725

## Wednesday

**Channel 5** 5.00 Milwaukee 15.15 The Tonight Show 11.30 Live with Kelly  
Galaxy 12.05 5.00 Movie Landtime 12.15 Big Brother (R) 1.15 Home and Away 1.55 Neighbours 2.15 CSI: NY (R) 3.10 Flint Creek in the Dark 2008 5.00 5.00 Movie at 5.30 Neighbours (R) 6.00 Home and Away (R) 6.30 CSI: NY (R) 7.00 7.20 Home and Away 7.50 Neighbours 8.15 Update 8.30 Ultimate Emergency (R) 8.50 Law at 8.30 Law & Order: Criminal Intent: Goren and Earned Injustice at 9.00 9.00 Big Brother 11.00 Bumped Up Against 12.00 Poker: The Big Game 12.35 SuperChick 1.55 Movie: In the Company of Men 2.55 Seinfeld (R) 3.55 County Seaside (R) 5.00 Wildlife SOS (R) 5.55 House Doctor (R)

**01922 626725**

**Thursday**

**Channel 5** 5.00 Midland 8.15 The Night Shift Sat. 11.00 LIVE with Andy 12.05 5 News Lundyline 12.35 Eki Roper 1.15 5 Home at Anytime 1.45 Height Hous 1.55 Cst: Crime Scene Investigation (R) 3.00 The Long Exchange (1988) 5.00 5 News at 5.30 Midland 6.00 Home at Anytime (R) 7.25 Chloë & Steve 7.30 5 News at 7.35 U.S. News UEFA European League Football Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United Kick-off 8.05pm. 8.30 Eki Roper. 11.15 Eki Roper's Bit on the Side. 12.15 SuperCops 1.00 Brother in Motion. 1.45 The Big Game Show. 2.15 Gail. 3.00 Comedy Central. 3.15 The Bill. 3.45 The Bill. 4.15 Comedy Central. 4.45 The Bill. 5.00 Middle Street. 5.35 House of Cards. (R) 5.50 Middle Street. 6.00 5 News at 6.00 (R)

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**Friday**

**Channel 9**

**7:00 AM** Midland 8:15 The  
Night Shift 11:00 Live with  
Gaby 12:05 S News 1:00  
The 60 Minutes Movie 2:00  
Ry 1:15 Home and Away 1:35 Healthline  
2:15 C-8 Crime Scene Investigation (R) 3:30 R  
Well Meet Again (2002) 5:00 S News at C 5:30  
Healthline (R) 6:00 Home and Away (R) 6:25  
On the Border 8:00 S News at 7:25 Foxit Stars (R)  
9:00 The Bachelor 9:30 S News at 9:00  
News at 9:30 Big Brother: Live Edition Brian  
Dozier reveals the next housemate for the drop.  
10:00 The Bachelor 11:00 Big Brother: The  
Evidence Interview 11:30 Big Brother: Bitt on the  
Side 12:15 Superchick 1:05 Motorcity Mundi  
1:35 The Night Show (R) 5:00 County Secret  
6:30 S Midland 7:00 S25 County Secret (R)  
8:35 House Doctor

**ROCHURE 01246 224411**

**FREE BRO**

**CHURE 01246 224411**

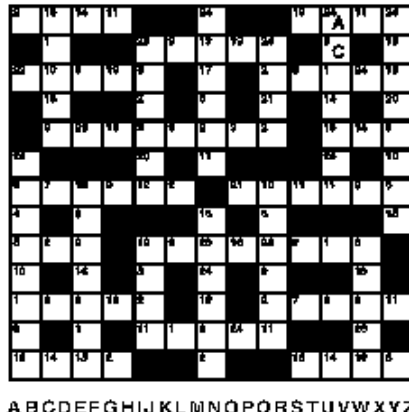


## Brain Gym

No.135

## Codeword

Codeword is the most recent puzzle with no clues. The numbers in each square correspond to a letter. You need to crack the code using the three letters provided, in order to work out the words in the grid. Fill in these known letters first, then use your skill and judgment to work out the remainder. Cross off the letters on the alphabet below the grid as you go.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

## SEVEN GREAT GAMES IN ONE!

No 3 store SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES



OUT NOW!

ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS IN ONE HANDY APP!

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

1. Island without a bar (4)
3. It may form a strong attachment to a craft (8)
5. Offhand and breezy (4)
9. Hunch because of a handicap (8)
11. He may set out with spirit for mountain rescue work (5,7)
13. The usual thing a shop receives from people (6)
14. He may scratch a living (6)
17. Possibly Reg thinks of a red card (4,2,6)
20. A mammoth beast (8)
21. A story teller (4)
22. God eaten like this makes quite a story (8)
23. Monster that helps us make progress (4)

## Down

1. Horro do bust ness? You'll find the short answer in the toilet (8)
2. They carry heavy burdens in many ways (7)
4. Didn't deny it's a selfish character's lies (6)
5. The present continues with the past not very often (8,6,4)
6. Seat I search on the outside (5)
7. Crookery from the cheek still (4)
10. A powerful grip, useful in defence (10)
12. What you'll do if you can (8)
15. I may show she's married, but it's false (7)
16. A raft at sea (6)
18. Publish the final result (5)
19. Nelson held her in high esteem maybe (4)

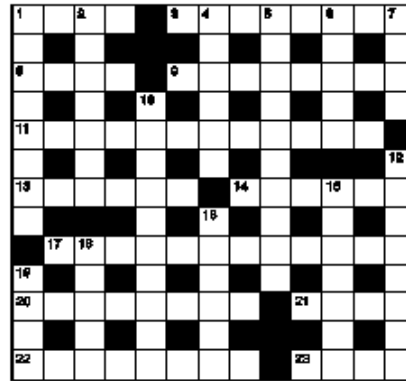
## Quick Clues:

## Across

1. Oodles (4)
3. Ungut (8)
5. Drossy (4)
9. Frank (8)
11. Devoted to one purpose (6,6)
13. Desecrated (6)
14. Dress (8)
17. Later reflection (12)
20. Mediterranean sea (8)
21. Nothing (4)
22. Peltion (8)
23. Employed (4)

## Down

1. Charm (8)
2. Seaman (7)
4. Sigh again (8)
5. Inactivity (10)
6. Angry (6)
7. Mismatch (4)
10. Undesired (10)
12. Demolished (8)
15. Way in (7)
16. Rigid (6)
18. Printer (5)
19. Lady (4)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:  
 CROSSWORD: Across: 1. Taking place, 9. Plaster, 10. Tense, 11. Down, 12. Sailing, 13. Lapped, 15. Brillo, 18. Trouble, 20. Pious, 22. Rain, 23. Gordan, 24. Vain, 25. Down, 26. Down, 27. Down, 28. Down, 29. Down, 30. Down, 31. Down, 32. Down, 33. Down, 34. Down, 35. Down, 36. Down, 37. Down, 38. Down, 39. Down, 40. Down, 41. Down, 42. Down, 43. Down, 44. Down, 45. Down, 46. Down, 47. Down, 48. Down, 49. Down, 50. Down, 51. Down, 52. Down, 53. Down, 54. Down, 55. Down, 56. Down, 57. Down, 58. Down, 59. Down, 60. Down, 61. Down, 62. Down, 63. Down, 64. Down, 65. Down, 66. Down, 67. Down, 68. Down, 69. Down, 70. Down, 71. Down, 72. Down, 73. Down, 74. Down, 75. Down, 76. Down, 77. Down, 78. Down, 79. Down, 80. Down, 81. Down, 82. Down, 83. Down, 84. Down, 85. Down, 86. Down, 87. Down, 88. Down, 89. Down, 90. Down, 91. Down, 92. Down, 93. Down, 94. Down, 95. Down, 96. Down, 97. Down, 98. Down, 99. Down, 100. Down, 101. Down, 102. Down, 103. Down, 104. Down, 105. Down, 106. Down, 107. 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# Home of Property

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Keith Wiggin, site manager at Frampton View

## Manager of site is given a top award by the NHBC

TAYLOR Wimpey has cause to celebrate after the site manager at Frampton View, its popular development in Rushall, West Midlands, scooped a prestigious Pride in the Job Quality Award from the National House-Building Council (NHBC).

Seeing off strong competition from more than 13,000 entries, Keith Wiggin is one of 65 Taylor Wimpey site managers around the UK to receive the honour in recognition of their dedication to maintaining exceptional standards in housebuilding.

Presented following a stringent judging process involving a number of NHBC inspections throughout the year, the Quality Awards also provide homebuyers with the assurance that the winning development delivers top-quality homes and excellent customer care.

Keith says: "The whole team at Frampton View take great pride in what they do and we work extremely hard to ensure the homes we build are completed to the highest possible standards."

"I'm delighted to have won this award and to have been recognised by the industry in this way."

### Service

Ian Smith, managing director of Taylor Wimpey North Midlands, adds: "Our commitment to maintaining the highest levels of quality, service and customer care has ensured that we continue to be an NHBC award-winning housebuilder year after year."

"Keith's award is thoroughly deserved and we'll all be supporting him as he progresses through to the regional heats of the Pride in the Job awards, and hopefully the grand final."

The only awards scheme that recognises the significant contribution of site managers in new home construction, Pride in the Job has been instrumental in raising the quality of new homes in the UK for over three decades.

The regional events take place in the autumn, with the Supreme Awards gala final being held in January 2012, the NHBC's 75th anniversary year.

Stylish two-bedroom apartments and starter homes are priced from just £84,995 at Frampton View, while spacious three-bedroom houses are available from only £135,995.

The development enjoys an excellent location in the well-served village of Rushall, close to local schools, shops and pubs and home to the ruins of a beautiful ancient manor house and the regal Rushall Hall.

## Scheme aims to help the first time buyers

ASPIRING home-owners can step on the property ladder with ease at Taylor Wimpey's Frampton View development in the North Midlands thanks to its FirstBuy initiative.

The leading local house-builder currently has a variety of two-bedroom apartments and two and three-bedroom houses for sale at its development in Rushall, near Walsall.

And a select number from this collection of homes are now available with the Government's FirstBuy scheme – helping to make home-ownership a reality for first-time buyers.

Under the initiative, purchasers require a five per cent deposit and a 75 per cent loan-to-value mortgage, with Taylor Wimpey and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) providing a 20 per cent loan which is repayable at the end of the 25-year mortgage term or when the property is sold.

Carl Cooke, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey, says: "A limited selection of properties at Frampton View is available through the FirstBuy scheme, putting first-time home-ownership within reach for those with total household earnings under £60,000.



An artist's impression of The Elm, available at Taylor Wimpey's Frampton View development which is in Rushall

"Demand for FirstBuy is bound to be incredibly high – so the message is 'Get in first, get in fast' for house-hunters hoping to secure their place at Frampton View."

Among the properties available at this stylish development with FirstBuy is 'The Elm', a two-bedroom apartment at Plot 14, available with a mortgage of £78,750 and with a five per cent deposit of only £5,250.

The property has a spacious, open-plan lounge/dining room which is complemented by a semi-open-plan kitchen, while 'The Elm' also features an en suite master bedroom along with a flexibly designed second bedroom which could also be used as a nursery or study, plus a main bathroom. The property also benefits from allocated parking outside.

Alternatively, the three-

bedroom 'Croxtan' property is available through FirstBuy from £152,995 – that's a mortgage of only £7,650.

Frampton View enjoys an excellent location in the well-served village of Rushall, close to local schools, shops and pubs and home to the ruins of a beautiful ancient manor house and the regal Rushall Hall.

Walsall town centre, located two miles to the

south of the development, offers a wider selection of shops, cafes and restaurants, plus a variety of schools for children of all ages and the well-regarded Walsall College.

A £1 billion regeneration, due for completion in 2015, includes the stylish Waterfront canal-side project, while the town is already home to numerous sports clubs and facilities, plus Crown Wharf Shopping

Park, with its array of leading high street shops, and IKEA Wednesbury, less than five miles from the development.

Fine countryside lies to the north of Frampton View, with pleasant walks, particularly along Rushall Canal, which forms part of the historic Birmingham Canal Navigations.

A wealth of employment and further leisure opportunities is just minutes from home via Rushall's excellent transport links – including the M6 and Walsall railway station for direct services to Birmingham New Street and Wolverhampton.

### Showhomes

The development is 10 miles from Birmingham city centre, nine miles from Cannock and Wolverhampton and eight miles from the cathedral city of Lichfield.

To find out more about FirstBuy at Frampton View, or any other properties, home-seekers can visit the Sales Centre and showhomes, located off Station Road, Rushall, and open Thursday to Monday from 11am to 5pm. Alternatively, the sales executive can be contacted on 0845 026 5512.

Further information on all Taylor Wimpey developments across the region is available by calling 01543 496700 or by visiting the website at [www.taylorwimpey.co.uk](http://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk)

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# Chimney gone now Goodyear homes on sale

THE first homes on Wolverhampton's former Goodyear factory site are nearing completion and have gone on sale this week.

Workers moved on site in May to start building 314 properties, the first phase of £150 million plans to create a mini-village off Stafford Road in Oxley.

Developer St Modwen has teamed up with house builder Persimmon to develop the 88 acre landmark site.

Business said the first occupants will be in by Christmas. A total of 133 four-

bedroom houses, 154 three-bedroom houses and 27 flats will be built.

Stephen Hird, managing director of Persimmon Homes West Midlands, said: "Construction work is continuing at our Goodyear site and we are on schedule for the launch of the development, Akron Gate.

## Truly

"We are building units ahead of the launch to enable potential homebuyers to truly appreciate the new designs and specification we are introducing at the development when we start selling."

The showroom at Akron Gate will

open today, Thursday. "We are expecting around 15 to 20 occupants to move in just in time for Christmas," Mr Hird added.

In July the new Aldi store which is part of the development at the site opened for business. The 17,000 sq ft store was officially opened by Wolves legend Steve Bull. Goodyear is keeping a presence at the site, with a 70-year-old sports and social club staying in Stafford Road along with a re-tread unit with 450 workers.

At one point, more than 5,000 staff worked at the factory, which was finally reduced to rubble two years ago.

Demolition work to make way for the development project started in 2007, while in June 2008 thousands gathered to witness the end of an era as the iconic blue and yellow Goodyear chimney was pulled down.

The famous chimney stack, which contained 142,662 bricks, was toppled after 81 years.

Workers, many of whom bought one of the bricks to keep a part of the company's history, shed tears and shared their memories of the factory.

It was decided that the eye-catching chimney would have to go after experts informed the city council that it would be too expensive to maintain it alongside homes planned for the site.



Show homes at the site which are nearing completion



Before the work started - the Goodyear plant in 2003 with the chimney in the distance



Houses going up with the Goodyear chimney no longer visible



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**Whitehouse Court**  
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Offices / small retail units. Units available now from 300 sq ft to 800 sq ft. Just off A61 / A5 and M6 toll J17. Dedicated car parking. Attractive large shop windows. Flexible lease terms.

**Towers Business Park**  
Whitehouse Road, Pongry  
**Industrial Units TO LET**

Modern industrial / warehouse units to let from 1,500 sq ft. Available on flexible lease terms. Roller shutters / parking / w/c etc. Prime location on the A61 near Rugby.

**Kimberley Business Park**  
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**Bridgman Business Centre**  
North Street, Bridgman  
**Retail Units TO LET**

Offices / small retail units. Units available now from 300 sq ft to 800 sq ft. Just off A61 / A5 and M6 toll J17. Dedicated car parking. Flexible lease terms.

**Birch Business Park**  
Progress Drive, Bridgman  
**Industrial Units TO LET**

Small storage / storage units available now to let. Roller shutter door access / w/c's. Well located close to A5, A34 and M6 toll J17. Flexible lease terms available.

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WV13 2BG





The team from Cross &amp; Co estate agent poses for a picture before taking part in a charity raft race



The Cannock team – Paul Phillips, Lee Cross, Nikki Cope and Joanne Lunn-Cross at the offices

# Expansion brings estate agent to Darlaston area

Cross & Co estate agent is pleased to announce the opening of a new branch in the Darlaston area.

Due to the success of the Cannock branch, the company has decided to expand into a wider area and believes that the key to its early success is its proactive approach to marketing and its aim to price properties correctly to achieve sales and lettings in this current climate.

Cross & Co has a large team of professional, experienced staff who offer all services under one roof – from sales and lettings to mortgages and financial advice.

It also has a property maintenance team that

can assist vendors and landlords with all their property needs and have a good working relationship with a team of solicitors who can provide free quotations for legal fees.

Cross & Co feels its has a different approach to marketing and can offer tailor-made packages to suit the homeowner.

Over the past two years, the firm has held several 'property fair' events at local hotels which have enabled them to invite homeowners to discuss all their property requirements and make people aware of the services that are on offer.

Cross & Co staff also work closely with their clients and have built up a good reputation – a lot of their work is now gained by recommendation from past clients.

The estate agent has recently rebranded its

company and has modernised the for sale and let boards along with newspaper adverts to create a fresh outlook to their advertising.

It also uses the most popular property websites such as Rightmove, Findaproperty and Primelocation to display their current property portfolio.

As a company, it also works closely with local charities and has made several donations over the past few months. Staff have taken part in organised charity events, the most recent of which was the 'Arley to Stourport Raft Race' which helped raise funds for the Air Ambulance.

Cross & Co would like to thank all of its past and present customers for their support since the opening of their Cannock branch, and look forward to a successful future in the Darlaston and Walsall areas.



Lee Cross with the Darlaston branch team Matthew Bradley and Phillip Lee

## K.Stuart Swash

### PROPERTY AUCTION - TUESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2011



**66 SCHOOL ROAD, TETTENHALL WOOD**  
 3 bed Semi - 2 Reception - for modernisation  
 Guide: £92,000 / £97,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 9.30 a.m.



**2 CASTLECROFT AVENUE, CASTLECROFT, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
 Spacious 3 bed Semi in good location  
 Through Lounge, large Kitchen, Gas C.H., Garage  
 Guide: £115,000 / £125,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 10.15 a.m.



**41 MANLOVE STREET, PENN FIELDS**  
 Late Victorian 3 bed Terraced, 2 Reception - needs improvement  
 Guide: £69,000 / £74,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 11.00 a.m.



**152 ALDERSLEY ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
 Late 19th Century End Terraced for modernisation  
 2 Reception, 2 beds  
 Guide: £53,000 / £58,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 11.45 a.m.



**190 BUSHBURY LANE, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
 3 bed Semi offering good letting potential  
 Guide: £63,000 / £68,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 12.30 p.m.



**244 BROMLEY LANE, KINGSWINFORD**  
 Smart 3 bed Semi, extended kitchen, garage, pleasant rear garden  
 Guide: £98,000 / £103,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 9.30 a.m.



**44 DILLOWAYS LANE, WILLENHALL**  
 For Investment - 3 bed Mid Terraced  
 Tenanted - £4,732 per annum  
 Guide: £49,000 / £54,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 10.45 a.m.



**46 DILLOWAYS LANE, WILLENHALL**  
 Large 3 bed End Terraced, altered / extended Ground Floor, garage  
 Guide: £63,000 / £68,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 11.00 a.m.



**18 WINDSOR ROAD, PARKFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
 Detached with spacious rooms, 3 beds, 2 reception, kitchen extension  
 Guide: £64,000 / £69,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 11.45 a.m.



**38 FAIRVIEW ROAD, PENN, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
 Pleasant location, well presented 3-bed Semi. Quick sale desired  
 Guide: £112,000 / £117,000  
 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
 23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER @ 12.30 p.m.

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● Rear garden  
Offers around £239,950

**DAISYBANK CRESCENT, OFF SUTTON ROAD**  
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DG ● Covered Entrance ● Hall  
● Lounge/Dining room ● Extended Kitchen  
● Breakfast Play room ● Stylish Bathroom  
● Driveway ● Workshop/Garage ● Garden  
Offers around £194,950

**CHERRY TREE AVENUE, YEW TREE**  
● Well presented three bed semi ● Gas CH &  
upvc DG ● Downstairs W.C. ● Lounge/ Dining  
Room ● L-Shaped Kitchen  
● Verandah ● Upstairs Bathroom ● In out  
driveway ● Fore & rear gardens  
● Double Garage  
Offers around £159,950

**NEW NEW NEW NEW**

**GRANGE CRESCENT, SHELFIELD**  
● Well presented two bed semi ● Gas CH and  
DG ● Lounge/dining room ● Fitted kitchen  
● Downstairs wc ● Upstairs bathroom  
● Front and rear gardens ● Driveway  
Offers around £109,950

**WEST BROMWICH ROAD, WALSALL**  
● Well presented two bedroom mid-terrace  
● Gas central heating ● Through Lounge/ Dining  
room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms  
● Upstairs Bathroom ● Yard ● Rear garden  
Offers around £84,950

**SPRINGHILL COURT, SUTTON ROAD**  
● Well presented two bed second floor flat  
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● Stylish Bathroom  
● Balcony views/ Communal parking  
Offers around £84,950

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# Spacious property is priced £114,950



This three-bedroom semi-detached home in Lichfield Road, Willenhall has been redecorated in recent months

A deceptively spacious three-bedroom semi-detached home in Lichfield Road, Willenhall is up for sale for £114,950.

The property has recently been redecorated and is well placed for local amenities including local schools and with easy access to the centres of Walsall, Bloxwich and Willenhall – with the M6 motorway making for

ready access to the remainder of the West Midlands conurbation and beyond.

On the ground floor is an entrance hall with doors leading to the 11ft 3in by 13ft 4in lounge an archway leads to the dining room.

The breakfast kitchen, 15ft by 7ft 11inm has a range of fitted base units with laminate work tops, inset sink with mixer tap and drainer board, gas

hob and electric oven and tiled floor with a door leading to the rear lobby which has doors to the utility and downstairs bathroom.

On the first floor are three bedrooms, while outside is a walled front garden and lawned rear garden with paved patio area and large fish pond.

Call estate agent Fraser Wood on 01922 627686 for further information or to arrange a viewing.

## AUCTION

MONDAY 10th OCTOBER 2011

7pm Prompt At  
THE PREMIER SUITE  
BAR SPORT

1st Floor The Danilo  
High Green, Cannock

## BOOT & SON

Independent Chartered Surveyors  
Established 1919

**LOT 1**  
Guide Price:  
£75,000 - £80,000

243 STAFFORD ROAD,  
CANNOCK  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Two bedroom semi detached house, possible buy to let comprising entrance lobby, lounge, kitchen, utility room, rear porch, toilet, landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, gas fired central heating, part double glazed, gardens, bin store, off road parking, garden store.

**LOT 2**  
Guide Price:  
£75,000 - £80,000

10 SCHOOL ROAD,  
NORTON CANES  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Three bedroom semi detached house in need of comprehensive renovation/refurbishment comprising side entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, toilet, utility room, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom, part electric heating, predominantly double glazed, detached garage, gardens.

**LOT 3**

46 SHAWS LANE,  
GREAT WYRLEY  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Two bedroom detached bungalow in need of renovation comprising recessed porch, lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, separate toilet, part double glazed, solid fuel central heating, built-on garage, fuel store, gardens extend to approx. 0.13 acre including approx. 12th side access.

**LOT 4**  
CORNER OF HIGH  
MEADOW CLOSE, HIGH  
MOUNT STREET,  
HEDNESFORD  
Guide Price:  
£80,000 - £90,000

440 BLOXWICH ROAD,  
LEAMORE, BLOXWICH  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Two building plots with planning permission for 2 four bedroomed 3 storey houses, each house if constructed to current planning permission would include: ground floor hall, lounge, dining area, cloakroom, kitchen, first floor landing, three bedrooms, family bathroom, second floor landing, bedroom four, en suite shower room.

**LOT 5**  
Guide Price:  
£75,000+

440 BLOXWICH ROAD,  
LEAMORE, BLOXWICH  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Substantial semi detached house requiring some repair and improvement in popular and convenient residential location comprising entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, landing, three bedrooms, shower room, some double glazing, gas central heating, enclosed forecourt, shared driveway, garage with wc off, rear garden.

**LOT 6**  
Guide Price:  
£60,000 - £65,000

33 ARMITAGE HOUSE,  
HOBS ROAD, LICHFIELD  
LEASEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Two bedroom apartment located on 7th floor, possible buy to let comprising communal hall, stairs, landing, lift and security phone system, reception hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, balcony off lounge, electric heating, communal grounds.

**LOT 7**  
Guide Price:  
£80,000 - £90,000

5 FOG COTTAGES,  
COLTON ROAD, RUGELEY  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Mid terrace house comprising entrance lobby, lounge, sitting room, kitchen, utility/rear verandah, landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, small yard to rear, store, pedestrian right of way to rear.

**LOT 8**  
Guide Price:  
£30,000+

104 FERNWOOD  
DRIVE, RUGELEY  
LEASEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Spacious self contained first floor flat in popular buy to let area, long leasehold comprising ground floor entrance hall, landing, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, some double glazing.

**LOT 9**  
Guide Price:  
£65,000 - £75,000

72 HAWTHORNE TERRACE,  
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD,  
ESSINGTON  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Three bedroomed end terrace of house in need of comprehensive refurbishment/modernisation located in popular village comprising sitting room, lobby, living room, rear entrance lobby, kitchen, bathroom, landing, three bedrooms, garden to rear, possible garage space off road parking via vehicular right of way adjoining properties to rear.

**LOT 10**  
Guide Price:  
£70,000 - £80,000

12 CANNOCK ROAD,  
WEDNESFIELD  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Three bedroomed semi detached house in need of refurbishment/modernisation comprising recessed porch, reception hall, sitting room, living room, kitchen, verandah, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom, part double glazed, gas central heating, built-on garage, outside store, gardens.

## AUCTION VIEWING TIMES

Address	Saturday 24th Sept, 1st, 8th October	Wednesday 21st, 28th Sept, 5th October
104 Fernwood Drive, Rugeley	10.00am	10.00am
5 Fog Cottages, Colton Road, Rugeley	10.30am	10.30am
33 Armitage House, Hobs Road, Lichfield	11.15am	11.15am
155 Ogle Road, Brownhills	12.15pm	12.15pm
440 Bloxwich Road, Leamore	1.15pm	1.15pm
12 Cannock Road, Wednesfield	10.00am	10.00am
72 Hawthorne Terrace, Wolverhampton Road, Essington	10.45am	10.45am
46 Shaws Lane, Great Wyrley	11.30am	11.30am
10 School Road, Norton Canes	12.15pm	12.15pm
243 Stafford Road, Cannock	1.00pm	1.00pm
178 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock	1.30pm	1.30pm

Land at corner High Meadow Close, High Mount Street, Hednesford  
Land to rear of 115 Kingsdown Road, Chase Terrace

By calling on site with  
copy catalogue to hand

NOTE: all viewings undertaken at prospective purchaser's own risk. Neither the Agents or the vendors can accept any liability for any injury caused whilst viewing of any property whether or not the property is occupied or unoccupied. When viewing properties please take care when parking so as not to interfere with adjoining owners and road users.

## LOT 11 LAND TO REAR OF 115 KINGSDOWN ROAD, CHASE TERRACE FREEHOLD

Individual parcel of land located to the rear of 115 Kingsdown Road area extending to 270yds/225m2 or thereabouts, access at rear.

**LOT 12**

178 WOLVERHAMPTON  
ROAD, CANNOCK  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Mid terrace house in need of comprehensive refurbishment/modernisation comprising sitting room, lobby, living room, kitchen, landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, garden store, toilet, gardens unutilized.

**LOT 13**  
Guide Price:  
£120,000 - £130,000

155 OGLEY ROAD,  
BROWNHILLS  
FREEHOLD WITH  
VACANT POSSESSION

Detached house built in popular inter-war period in need of comprehensive refurbishment/modernisation comprising reception hall, sitting room, living room, kitchen, landing, two bedrooms, box room, bathroom, two stores, toilet, gardens, possible garage space.



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19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 1DG





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## Chartered Surveyors

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**01902 367367**



GLAMIS ROAD, SHORT HEATH

- Three Bedroomed Detached House
- Double Glazing and Central Heating
- Guest W.C.
- Lounge and Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen and Utility Room
- Conservatory
- Side Garage

OFFERS £169,950



HONEYBOURNE WAY, KINGFISHER EST, WILLENHALL

- Link Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Ground Floor W.C.
- Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Conservatory

OFFERS £164,950



LICHFIELD ROAD, NEW INVENTION

- Three Bedroomed Semi
- Central Heating & Double Glazing Throughout
- Front Lounge with Feature Fireplace
- Dining Kitchen
- Side Garage
- Internal Inspection Recommended

OFFERS £125,000



CHAUCER AVENUE, WILLENHALL

- Modern Three Bedroomed Semi-detached
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front Driveway and rear garden
- Side Garage
- Possible opportunity to buy on 50% shared ownership

OFFERS £124,950 or £62,500 for 50% share



ALEXANDRA ROAD, DARLASTON

- Mid Town House
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen with Hob and Oven
- Foregarden with Tarmac Driveway

OFFERS £104,950



BLOXWICH ROAD SOUTH, WILLENHALL

- Three bedroomed end terrace
- Deceptively spacious
- Two reception rooms
- Spacious kitchen
- Utility room
- Extensive double glazing and central heating

OFFERS £84,950



BROADWAY NORTH, WALSALL

- ★ Extended Detached Property
- ★ Four/Five Bedrooms
- ★ Lounge/Dining Room
- ★ Kitchen & Sitting Room
- ★ Bathroom & En-Suite
- ★ Driveway & Rear Garden

£950pcm



CAMPION CLOSE, WALSALL

- ★ Semi-Detached
- ★ Lounge/Kitchen
- ★ One Bedroom
- ★ Bathroom
- ★ Parking & Rear Garden
- ★ GCH & UPVC DG

£385pcm



CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON

- ★ First Floor flat
- ★ One Bedroom
- ★ Hallway & Bathroom
- ★ Kitchen & Lounge
- ★ Gas Central Heating
- ★ UPVC DG

£350pcm



HOLDEN CRESCENT, WALSALL

- ★ One Bed Maisonette
- ★ Hall, Lounge
- ★ Kitchen
- ★ Shower
- ★ Bathroom
- ★ Storage heaters

£295pcm



HOUGH ROAD, WALSALL

- ★ Mid Terrace Property
- ★ Two Bedrooms
- ★ Through Lounge / Diner
- ★ Kitchen
- ★ Gas Central Heating
- ★ UPVC Double Glazing

£460pcm



KEWSTOKE ROAD, WILLENHALL

- ★ Detached House
- ★ Four Bedrooms
- ★ Dining Room
- ★ Fitted Kitchen
- ★ Garage
- ★ GCH & DG

£695pcm



LICHFIELD ROAD, WILLENHALL

- ★ Three Bed Semi
- ★ Lounge & Dining Room
- ★ Breakfast Kitchen
- ★ Lobby & Utility Area
- ★ Bathroom & Gardens
- ★ UPVC DG & GCH

£480pcm



SLANEY ROAD, WALSALL

- ★ First floor maisonette
- ★ One bedroom
- ★ Lounge
- ★ Kitchen
- ★ Bathroom
- ★ Double glazing, GCH

£325pcm



WALSALL ROAD, WILLENHALL

- ★ End Terrace House
- ★ Three Bedrooms
- ★ Lounge & Kitchen
- ★ Bathroom & En-suite
- ★ DG & GCH
- ★ Off road parking

£510pcm

**"Don't waste time shopping around, Contact Fraser Wood for ALL your Letting needs"**



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**01922 707500**

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# auction HOUSE

EDWARDS MOORE

## Estate House, Darwall Street, Walsall WS1 1DA


# 01922 615222

## Auction

Wednesday 12th  
October at  
6.30 pm precisely  
Venue:  
Calderfields Golf  
and Country Club  
Aldridge Road, Walsall

**LOT 1** **14 Dalkeith Street, Walsall**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sept & 1st/10th Oct at 10.00 am



Traditionally styled brick and tile end terraced residences comprising: Front Lounge, Inner Lobby, Rear Living Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms.

**GUIDE PRICE £45,000-£50,000**

**LOT 2** **61 Westbourne Road, Tunstall, Stoke on Trent**

Viewing: 9th/16th/23rd/30th Sept & 7th Oct at 11.00 am




A first floor maisonette with double glazing in need of modernisation and comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom.

**GUIDE PRICE £25,000-£35,000**

**LOT 3** **16 Glendower Road, Perry Barr**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers



Traditionally styled semi-detached property let on a Regulated Tenancy to Mrs Ryan for approximately 28 years at a weekly rent of £68.50 comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Rear Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Garden.

**GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£90,000**

**LOT 4** **19 Queen Street, Walsall Wood**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sep & 1st/10th Oct at 11.30 am



This traditionally styled end terraced property offers good sized living accommodation situated near to Walsall Wood High Street, where most amenities are available comprising: Porch, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £75,000-£80,000**

**LOT 5** **25 St Marks Road, Smethwick**

Viewing: 12th/17th/21st/28th Sept & 5th Oct at 11.30 am



A traditionally styled brick and tile semi-detached dwelling house is situated in a well regarded sought after area and is in need of some improvement and modernisation and would make an ideal purchase for a family or an investor. Constructed of brick under a pitch tiled roof, the property is set back from the road behind a lawned fore garden flanked by a driveway leading to garage and boasts the benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing and comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £110,000-£130,000**

**LOT 6** **148 Clarkes Lane, Willenhall**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sept & 1st/10th Oct at 12.15 pm



This traditionally styled brick and tiled detached dwelling house situated in a popular residential area within a short distance of Willenhall centre and comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Sitting Room, Separate Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £100,000-£120,000**

**LOT 7** **11 Merridale Crescent, Wolverhampton**

Viewing: 12th/17th/21st/28th Sept & 5th Oct at 10.30 am



This traditionally styled Victorian residence offers spacious and well planned living accommodation at both ground and first floor levels comprising: Enclosed Porch, Entrance Hall, Inner Hallway, Sitting Room, Inner Sitting Room, Further Sitting Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Bathroom, Four Bedrooms, Lobby Area, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £100,000-£120,000**

**LOT 8** **1 Fleming Place, Walsall**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sept & 1st/10th Oct at 11.00 am



Traditionally styled semi-detached residence set in a quiet cul-de-sac offering an opportunity for a first-time buyer or investor. The property briefly comprises: Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Lean-to Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£80,000**

**LOT 9** **59 Markby Road, Birmingham**

Viewing: 12th/17th/21st and 28th Sept & 5th Oct at 12.30 pm



The property comprises of a 2 storey mid terrace house briefly comprising Lounge, Through Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC, Small Front Garden and Rear Garden.

**GUIDE PRICE £40,000-£50,000**

**LOT 11** **70 Windsor Street, Walsall**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers




A unique end terrace property having gas central heating and uPVC double glazed accommodation. Briefly comprising: Reception Hall, Spacious Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Verandah, Two Bedrooms and Part Tiled Family Bathroom. Outside: Large Fore garden with Off Road Parking.

**GUIDE PRICE £60,000-£70,000**

**LOT 10** **9 Oakwood Road, Walsall**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sept & 1st/10th Oct at 10.30 am



In need of complete modernisation and improvement. This three bedroom semi-detached property is an ideal investment opportunity and offers: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom and Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £35,000-£45,000**

**LOT 12** **43a Bells Lane, Boney Hay**

Viewing: 9th/16th/23rd/30th Sept & 7th Oct at 11.00 am



A unique investment/redevelopment opportunity consisting of a disused retail shop in need of attention, with attached spacious four Bedroom accommodation, and 2 additional self-contained flats, on a corner plot with rear garage and parking.

**GUIDE PRICE £110,000-£130,000**

**LOT 13** **123 Broadway, Walsall**

Viewing: 15th/20th/27th Sept & 1st/10th Oct at 9.30 am



A traditionally styled semi-detached property with gas central heating and being mostly double glazed. The property comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Front Living Room, Extended Lounge, Kitchen with extended Breakfast Area beyond, Utility Room with WC off, Side Verandah, Three Bedrooms, Study and Shower Room. Outside: Driveway with ample off street parking, whilst the rear is an enclosed, lawned, private garden.

**GUIDE PRICE £165,000-£175,000**





**WILLENHALL  
CROXLEY GARDENS**

- Extended modern style semi detached property
- Popular Huddley Heath location
- Cul-de-sac position
- Three bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Lounge and dining kitchen
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Garage and off road parking

**£125,000 OFFERS**



**WILLENHALL  
SHEPHERD DRIVE**

- Pleasantly appointed semi detached property
- Two bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 19ft through lounge/dining room
- Upstairs fitted bathroom with shower
- Generous rear garden
- Ideal first time purchase

**£92,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**NEW INVENTION  
LICHFIELD ROAD**

- Conveniently located three bedroom semi
- Gas central heating
- Fitted kitchen including oven and hob
- Left hand lounge
- En-suite shower cubicle
- Downstairs shower room
- Generous rear garden

**£89,995 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**WILLENHALL  
DIBBLE CLOSE, OFF STROUD AVENUE**

- Pleasantly appointed town house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Superb refitted bathroom with 'P'
- Shaped bath
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Spacious 20ft through lounge
- Fitted breakfast kitchen with appliances

**£98,000 OFFERS**



**WILLENHALL  
GEORGE STREET**

- Three bedroom and two bath
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Part gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen inc. oven and hob
- Side support
- Concrete print driveway offering ample parking
- Convenient to the rear
- Viewing Recommended

**£89,995 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**WILLENHALL  
TEMPLE ROAD**

- Pleasantly appointed Victorian style terrace
- Two bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Refitted shower room
- Fitted kitchen
- Enclosed rear garden

**£80,000 VIEWING ESSENTIAL**



**WILLENHALL  
STROUD AVENUE**

- Excellent modern style end house
- Two bedrooms
- Ideal first time purchase
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Fitted dining kitchen with oven and hob
- Left hand lounge with feature fireplace
- Pleasant enclosed rear garden with paved patio
- Rear parking space

**£110,000 No Chain**



**COPPICE FARM  
HILLBURY DRIVE**

- Superbly appointed extended detached property
- Three bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazed windows
- Well equipped fitted dining kitchen with appliances
- Left hand lounge with feature fireplace
- 20ft Double length garage
- Lovely enclosed gardens with local tennis to the side

**£174,950**



**SNEYD PARK  
DRUID PARK ROAD**

- Pleasantly appointed and surprisingly spacious semi
- Ideal first time purchase
- Two double bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 17ft front lounge
- Fitted breakfast kitchen with appliances
- Lovely enclosed rear garden

**£125,000 OFFERS**

**WANTED**  
PROPERTIES IN  
**SHORT HEATH**  
AND  
**NEW INVENTION**



**WILLENHALL  
BROAD LANE NORTH**

- Extended semi detached property
- Some internal modernisation required
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Majority UPVC double glazed windows
- Two reception rooms
- Generous enclosed rear garden
- Viewing recommended

**£150,000 NO CHAIN**



**ESSINGTON  
SHERRINGHAM DRIVE**

- Pleasantly appointed link detached property
- Popular and much requested location
- Extended to the rear at ground floor level
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating, no chain
- UPVC double glazed windows
- 18ft extended dining room
- Garage and off road parking

**WAS £179,950 NOW OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £169,950**



**WILLENHALL  
HIGH ROAD**

- Spacious modern style detached residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Lounge and separate dining room
- Fitted breakfast kitchen with selected appliances
- Block paved driveway

**£197,000 OFFERS, VIEWING ESSENTIAL**



**WILLENHALL  
MAGNESS CRESCENT**

- Pleasantly appointed semi in popular location
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Three bedrooms
- Fitted bathroom with separate shower cubicle
- Spacious 1 shaped lounge/dining room
- Garage/shed and block paved driveway

**WAS £127,500 NOW £122,500**



**NEW INVENTION,  
LICHFIELD ROAD**

- Delightful extended detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Extended kitchen and dining room
- Garage and carport
- Pleasant gardens

**WAS £189,950 NOW £164,950**



**NEW INVENTION  
SANDRINGHAM AVENUE**

- Well presented detached property
- Extensive rear garden with decked patio approx 20ft
- Three bedrooms
- Double glazed windows
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- 20ft through lounge
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Left room
- Garage and off road parking

**WAS £189,995 NOW £184,995**



**SUMMER HAYES  
BLEMINGHAM ROAD**

- Pleasant link detached bungalow in cul-de-sac location
- Two bedrooms
- Majority UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 17ft rear lounge
- Kitchen and utility room
- Block paved driveway

**£139,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**

#### PROPERTIES TO LET



**WILLENHALL  
DOVEDALE AVENUE**

- Traditional style semi detached property
- In need of some modernisation
- Excellent potential to improve
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Garage and parking
- Pleasant rear garden
- No upward chain

**£110,000**



**WANTED**  
**Bungalows**  
*in all areas*



**NEW INVENTION  
JOHN RILEY DRIVE**

- Pleasantly appointed detached family residence
- Cul-de-sac position
- Three bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Gas central heating
- Refitted kitchen
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Generous garden to the rear
- Integral garage

**£149,950**



**NEW INVENTION  
HIGHGROVE CLOSE**

- Extended two storey detached house standing behind a brick paved forecourt
- In quiet cul-de-sac location
- Four bedrooms, barge with Adam style line around
- Separate sitting and dining room
- Fitted kitchen with cooker and breakfast bar
- Utility room, bathroom with bath and shower
- Detached single garage
- Lilly enclosed rear garden

**£595 pcm**



**WILLENHALL  
BEECH ROAD**

- Pleasantly appointed Detached Bungalow
- Redecorated and carpeted throughout
- Four bedrooms
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Refitted Bathroom with Shower over bath
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Rear Garden and off road parking

**£595 pcm Security Deposit £892.50**

**Willenhall**  
**01902 631151**

**Wednesfield**  
**01902 732324**

**Tipton**  
**0121 520 2255**

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**0121 505 1818**

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**01902 353578**

**Sedgley**  
**01902 686868**



**WILLENHALL  
FARMHOUSE ROAD, CORNER BENTLEY LANE**

- Spacious modern style detached residence in popular location
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows
- Large and dining room
- Fitted kitchen inc oven and hob
- Grange and off road parking
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Excellent refitted bathroom kitchen inc oven, hob and refrigerator
- Refitted bathroom with jacuzzi type bath
- Low maintenance rear garden

**£167,500**



**WILLENHALL  
WAKES CLOSE**

- Conveniently located modern style end house
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Spacious 19ft through lounge
- Play/study room
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Block paved driveway

**£99,950 OFFERS**



**WILLENHALL  
MAGNESS CRESCENT**

- Splendidly appointed, considerably improved semi
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 1 shaped lounge/dining room
- Well equipped refitted kitchen with appliances
- Excellent refitted bathroom with separate shower cubicle
- Grange and off road parking
- UPVC double glazed windows (except garage)

**£145,000 OFFERS FREEHOLD**



**WILLENHALL  
LINCOLN AVENUE**

- Traditional style town house in popular location
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows
- Spacious 19ft through lounge
- Play/study room
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Block paved driveway

**£89,995 NO CHAIN**



**NEW INVENTION,  
LITTLETON ROAD**

- Traditional style mid town house
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- 19ft through lounge
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Internal viewing recommended
- No chain

**OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £94,950**



**WILLENHALL  
BENTLEY LANE**

- Desirably spacious detached family residence
- Present corner location
- Three bedrooms
- Spacious 18ft long lounge/dining room
- Well equipped fitted breakfast kitchen
- Jack and all style bathroom with separate wetroom
- Generous garden to rear
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazed windows (except garage)

**£164,950 NO CHAIN**

**Leveson Street, Willenhall**  
3 Bed Terrace .....£425 pcm

**Temple Road, Willenhall**  
3 Bed Terrace .....£425 pcm

**Stroud Avenue, Willenhall**  
1 Bed Flat .....£460 pcm

**Griffiths Drive, Ashmore Park**  
3 Bed Town House .....£495 pcm

**Nordley Road, Wednesfield**  
3 Bed Town House .....£495 pcm

**Hopwood Lock court, Willenhall**  
2 Bed Apartment .....£500 pcm

**Astbury Close, Turnberry, Bloxwich**  
2 Bed Town House .....£550 pcm

**Sneyd Lane, Essington**  
3 Bed Semi .....£675 pcm

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#### **Bloxwich Revival Street**

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Guest Cloakroom
- Kitchen
- Through Lounge / Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite

- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Garage & Driveway
- Sorry no DHSS

**£750 PCM**



- Great Wryley  
Long Lane**
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Dining Room/Fitted Kitchen
  - Bathroom with shower cubicle
  - Block Paved Front Driveway
  - Sorry No DHSS

**£750 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Field Road**
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
  - Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
  - En-Suite shower room
  - Downstairs W.C.
  - Parking to Front
  - Rear Garden
  - Sorry no DHSS

**£650 PCM**



- Aldridge  
Old Hall Court**
- Three Bed Barn Conversion
  - Lounge/Kitchen/Bathroom
  - En-Suite/Central Heating
  - Off Road Parking
  - Sorry No DHSS

**£650 PCM**



- Walsall  
Pommel Close**
- Three Bed Link Detached
  - Lounge/Garage/Utility
  - Kitchen/Diner
  - Bathroom/Front & Rear Garden
  - Sorry no DHSS

**£550 PCM**



#### **Bloxwich Revival Street**

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Guest Cloakroom
- Kitchen
- Through Lounge / Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite

- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Garage & Driveway
- Sorry no DHSS

**£750 PCM**



- Windrush Close**
- Two Bedroom Coach House
  - Master Bedroom With En-Suite
  - Fitted Kitchen/Bathroom
  - Rear Garden
  - Allocated Parking
  - Sorry NO DHSS

**£550 PCM**



- Walsall  
Penlebury Close**
- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
  - Lounge/Diner
  - Allocated Parking
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Sorry NO DHSS, Pets or Smokers

**£500 PCM**



- Walsall  
Sycamore Road**
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Porch/Lounge/Dining Room
  - Kitchen/Family Bathroom
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - Off Road Parking
  - Sorry No DHSS

**£495 PCM**



- Walsall  
Smiths Flour Mill**
- Two Bedroom Apartment
  - Electric Heating
  - Off Road Parking
  - Secure Entrance
  - Sorry no DHSS

**£475 PCM**



- Essington  
Broad Lane**
- Two Bedroom Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen/Large Bathroom
  - Double Glazing
  - Central Heating
  - Sorry No DHSS

**£475 PCM**



- Walsall  
West Bromwich Road**
- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Open Plan Lounge/Diner
  - Ground Floor Bathroom
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Sorry No DHSS

**£460 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Bloxwich Road**
- Two Bed End Terrace
  - Lounge/Fitted Kitchen
  - Two Bathrooms
  - Double Glazing
  - Heating
  - Rear Garden
  - Off Road Parking
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Rushall  
Yemscroft, Lichfield Road**
- Two Bed Top Floor Flat
  - Lounge
  - Bathroom
  - Kitchen with Appliances
  - Sorry no DHSS, Smokers or Pets

**£450 PCM**



- Walsall  
Kent Street**
- Three Bed Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Kitchen
  - Bathroom
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Blakenhall Heath  
Church Walk, Parish Court**
- Two Bedroom Apartments
  - Part Furnished & Unfurnished
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Secure Entrance
  - Off Road Parking
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Walsall  
Rowland Street**
- Two Bedrooms
  - One Reception room
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Rear Garden
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Beatrice Street**
- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Family Bathroom
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Chepstow Way**
- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Bathroom
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - DHSS Accepted

**£450 PCM**



- Walsall  
Manorhouse Close**
- One & Two Bedroom Apartments
  - Lounge/Kitchen/Bathroom
  - Double Glazing & Central Heating
  - Allocated Parking
  - Sorry No DHSS

**From £435 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Rockingham Close**
- Three Bedroom Flat
  - Communal Entrance
  - Hallway/Lounge/Kitchen
  - Allocated Parking in Courtyard
  - Bathroom
  - DHSS Accepted

**£430 PCM**



- Walker Road  
Blakenall Heath & Guild Court**
- Two Bedroom Apartments
  - Lounge/Kitchen/Family Bathroom
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Double Glazing
  - DHSS Accepted

**From £425 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Marton Court**
- One & Two Bed Apartments
  - Fitted Kitchen/Bathroom
  - Lounge
  - Double Glazing
  - Electric Heating
  - DHSS Accepted

**From £400 PCM**



- Walsall  
Kingsley Street**
- Two Bedroom Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Kitchen/Bathroom
  - Downstairs W.C.
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating
  - DHSS Accepted

**£400 PCM**



- Walsall  
Kingsley Street**
- Two Bedroom Flat
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Off Road Parking
  - Gas Central Heating
  - DHSS Accepted

**£400 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Harrison Street**
- Two Bedroom Flat
  - Lounge/Bedroom
  - Bathroom
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating
  - DHSS Accepted

**£375 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Revival Street**
- Three Bedroom Detached
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Guest Cloakroom
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite



- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Driveway
- Sorry no DHSS

**£650 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
High Street**
- Two Bedroom Two Floor Flat
  - Lounge/Entrance Hall
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Bathroom with corner shower cubicle
  - Storage
  - Double Glazing
  - Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

**£375 PCM**



- Walsall  
Lincoln Road**
- Three Bedroom Road
  - Double Glazing
  - Electric Heating
  - Off Road Parking
  - DHSS Accepted

**£375 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Harrison Street**
- One Bedroom Flat
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Double Glazing
  - Electric heating

**£350 PCM**



- Bloxwich  
Barracks Lane**
- One Bedroom Flat
  - Kitchen
  - Bathroom
  - Double Glazing
  - DHSS Accepted

**£325 PCM**

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**Walsall  
Princes Avenue**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms ● Kitchen  
● Utility Room ● Family Bathroom  
● Master Bedroom with En-Suite  
● Front & Rear Gardens ● Sorry NO DHSS  
£675 PCM



**Walsall  
Keepers Gate**  
● Two Bedroom Apartment  
● One Reception room  
● Integrated Cooker & Washer/Dryer  
● En-Suite ● Electric Heating  
● Double Glazing ● Sorry No DHSS  
£580 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Well Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Family Bathroom ● Separate W.C.  
● Integral Garage ● Large Driveway  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Furnished ● DHSS Accepted  
£550 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Field Road**  
● Two Bedroom Semi- Terrace  
● Gas Central Heating  
● Double Glazing  
● Allocated Parking  
● Downstairs W.C. ● Sorry no DHSS  
£550 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Revival Street**  
● Two Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen  
● Family Bathroom  
● Cloakroom W.C. ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Garage & Driveway ● Sorry no DHSS  
£500 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Enville Close**  
● Two Bedroom Semi  
● Lounge ● Kitchen  
● Double Glazing, Electric Heating  
● Conservatory ● Off Road Parking  
● Sorry No DHSS  
£500 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Mulberry Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi  
● Cloakroom/W.C. ● Kitchen/Diner  
● Double Glazing  
● Central Heating  
● DHSS Accepted  
£495 PCM



**New Invention  
Squires Grove**  
● Two Bedroom Apartment  
● Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Bathroom ● En-Suite  
● Double Glazing ● Electric Heating  
● Sorry No DHSS  
£495 PCM



**Walsall  
Smiths Flour Mill**  
● Two Bedroom Apartment  
● Electric Heating  
● Off Road Parking  
● Secure Entrance  
● Sorry no DHSS  
£475 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Harrison Close**  
● Three Bedroom Terrace  
● Through Lounge  
● Kitchen/Dinner ● Family Bathroom  
● Downstairs WC ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating  
£475 PCM



**Walsall  
Tanners Court**  
● Two Bed Apartment  
● Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Bathroom with Shower  
● Allocated Parking  
● Sorry No DHSS  
£450 PCM



**Bloxwich  
Usk Close**  
● Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Bathroom  
● Rear Garden ● Off Road Parking  
● Double Glazed ● Gas Central Heating  
● DHSS Accepted  
£450 PCM



**Walsall  
Borneo Street**  
● Three Bedroom Terrace  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Dining Room ● Kitchen  
● Majority Gas Central Heating  
● Rear Garden ● DHSS Accepted  
£450 PCM



**Walsall  
Bloxwich Road**  
● Two Bedroom Flat  
● Lounge ● Kitchen  
● Off Road Parking  
● Gas Central Heating  
● DHSS Accepted  
£400 PCM



**Walsall  
Thornbury Road**  
● One Bedroom Apartment  
● Lounge ● Bathroom  
● Electric Heating  
● Off Road Parking  
● Sorry no DHSS  
£395 PCM



**Willenhall  
Argyle Court**  
● One Bedroom First Floor Apartment  
● Fitted Kitchen ● Large Bedroom  
● Central Heating  
● Secure Allocated Parking  
● Double Glazing ● Sorry No DHSS  
£390 PCM

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Good size plot extended and improved with further potential for extensions and possible building plot at rear (see planning permission), three bedroom and terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property briefly comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, conservatory, fitted kitchen (4 ways), downstairs shower room, W.C., 2 bedrooms, family bathroom and good size rear gardens with access for vehicles.

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<p><b>Holyhedger Road West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A superbly appointed and stylish presented two bedroom Victorian semi-detached property. Situated in a well established popular residential location with easy access to motorway networks and close to excellent local amenities. The property offers a spacious layout and is fitted to a high which requires minimal redecoration to be let. The property is fully furnished and includes a modern fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, a bathroom, a lounge, a dining room, a reception hall, a front garden, and a rear garden. Viewing by appointment only. No DSS.</p> <p><b>£850 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Hollyhock Court Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>During new apartments available in the heart of Wolverhampton. Hollyhock Court is situated in a desirable residential area of Wolverhampton, within a mile of the City Centre. Within a few minutes you can find yourself in Telford Village with access to the local leisure facilities, shops and restaurants. Best of all is the walking distance and convenient to the bus and train stations. The property is fully furnished and includes a modern fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, a bathroom, a lounge, a dining room, a reception hall, a front garden, and a rear garden. Viewing by appointment only. No DSS.</p> <p><b>£650 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Keyte Close Tipton</b></p> <p>A semi detached property with integral garage and off road parking. The accommodation benefits from central heating and double glazing and has recently been refurbished. The property briefly comprises reception hall with door to garage, fitted kitchen with built in oven hob and extractor, lounge with gas fire, open plan staircase to first floor, three bedrooms and family bathroom with shower over bath, wash basin and w.c. and an enclosed rear garden.</p> <p><b>£600 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Larchwood Road Walsall</b></p> <p>Extended three bedroomed semi detached house situated on corner plot. With part gas central heating and double glazing the accommodation includes porch, reception hall, ground floor bathroom, through lounge, dining kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, double garage, gardens front, side and rear.</p> <p><b>£595 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Victoria Street Willenhall</b></p> <p>A modern three bedroom two storey town house situated in a popular location just a short distance from Willenhall town centre and with easy access to motorway networks. The property offers a spacious layout and high standard of accommodation and briefly comprises of lounge, modern fitted kitchen, Guest W.C., Three good size bedrooms with en suite, Rear garden, Dg and Gch, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£595 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Geneva Road Tipton</b></p> <p>An improved and upgraded three bedroom and terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This well presented property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, off road parking, and good size rear garden.</p> <p><b>£575 pcm</b></p>
<p><b>Regis Heath Road Rowley Regis</b></p> <p>A modern three bedroom semi detached property, situated in a popular residential neighbourhood close to excellent local amenities and with easy access to motorway networks. The property offers a good standard of accommodation and briefly comprises of Lounge, Diner, Modern fitted kitchen, Three good size bedrooms, Fitted bathroom, Private rear garden and Driveway, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£575 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Waite Road Willenhall</b></p> <p>A superbly appointed and stylish presented three bedroom traditional semi detached property. Situated in a popular location with easy access to local amenities and motorway networks. The property enjoys a good standard of accommodation and briefly comprises of Lounge, Modern fitted kitchen, Three good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch, No DSS.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Windsor Road Tipton</b></p> <p>Improved corner position end town house with UPVC windows &amp; gas central heating. Porch, reception hall, lounge, fitted pine fronted kitchen/dining room with built in oven hob, hob, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, driveway, detached side garage &amp; garden, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Ward Street Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>A well presented three bedroom semi detached property offering spacious layout and high standard of decoration. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Fitted kitchen, Good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Private rear garden, Dg, Gch, Private rear garden, No DSS.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Warstones Road Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>A well presented two bedroom traditional house offering a popular location on the Western outskirts of the city centre the property is in good decorative order and benefits from a spacious layout. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Dining Room, Modern fitted kitchen, Family bathroom, Two double bedrooms, Private rear garden, driveway, Dg and Gch, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Farhill Close West Bromwich</b></p> <p>An attractive mid-terrace house. Double glazed, intruder alarmed and situated in this popular residential area. Enclosed porch, hall, lounge, dining kitchen, rear hall, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, separate WC and front/rear gardens. No Dss.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>
<p><b>Fraser Street Bilston</b></p> <p>A two bedroom middle terrace property having the benefit of no upward chain, gas central heating and majority UPVC double glazing. Ideal for first time buyer or landlord the property briefly comprises, lounge, dining room, kitchen, ground floor bathroom, 2 double bedrooms and rear garden.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Anita Avenue Tipton</b></p> <p>Modern semi-detached having double-glazing, gas central heating &amp; briefly comprising, lounge (feature fire-place), fitted breakfast kitchen with built in oven/hob, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, driveway to side, additional driveway to front &amp; rear garden.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Monkgate Drive West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A modern first floor apartment, fully furnished and has the benefit of double glazing and electric heating. The property briefly comprises of entrance hall, lounge, kitchen with oven hob and extractor, bathroom with shower over bath, wash basin and toilet and two bedrooms. Viewing 0121 525 5520</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>St Stephens Road West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A traditional three bedroom terrace situated in a well established neighbourhood just a short distance from West Bromwich town centre. The property benefits from a lounge, Dining Room, Good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Dg and Gch, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Brickhouse Lane West Bromwich</b></p> <p>Extended and recently refurbished semi detached having gas central heating whilst briefly comprising: Reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, front and rear gardens.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Riverbank Road Willenhall</b></p> <p>A semi detached property having the benefit of double glazing and central heating. The accommodation briefly comprises of lounge, fitted kitchen/diner with built in oven hob and extractor, three bedrooms, master with en-suite shower room and family bathroom. The property has an enclosed rear garden.</p> <p><b>£550 pcm</b></p>
<p><b>Church Vale West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A unique 2 bedroom end of terrace family home having the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. The property briefly comprises, lounge, sitting room (previously used as bedroom), 3 dining room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, good size family bathroom and front and rear gardens.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Cophall Street Tipton</b></p> <p>Modern Semi Detached Bungalow having upvc double glazing, gas central heating, fitted alarm, &amp; briefly comprising, reception hall, lounge, conservatory, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, parking area &amp; ramp, rear garden.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Shaw Road Tipton</b></p> <p>A semi detached property which benefits from central heating and part double glazing. Briefly comprising reception hall, open plan through lounge, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, and three bedrooms. The accommodation has off road parking and front garden and an enclosed rear garden.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Greencroft Bilston</b></p> <p>A 3 bedroom end terrace house having central heating and double glazing. Briefly comprising reception hall with guest cloak/WC off, lounge, fitted kitchen with gas cooker, 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC and enclosed rear garden. NO PETS. Viewing 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Abbey Close West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A modern two bedroom semi detached property, centrally heated &amp; double glazed, the property comprises reception hall, lounge with laminate flooring, fitted kitchen with oven, hob and extractor, 2 bedrooms, one with fitted mirrored wardrobes, bathroom with electric shower over bath, wash basin and low level w.c., off road parking to the side and enclosed rear garden. View 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£525 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Holyhead Road Wednesbury</b></p> <p>A superbly appointed and stylish presented two bedroom second floor apartment situated in this prestigious development &amp; has easy access to M6 motorway networks and Bank Country Club/Leisure Centre. The property offers a spacious layout and is fitted to a high standard. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Modern well equipped fitted kitchen, Two good size bedrooms, Bathroom, allocated parking, No Pets or Dss.</p> <p><b>£500 pcm</b></p>
<p><b>Sandders Crescent Tipton</b></p> <p>A Well Presented Modern First Floor Granary style luxury apartment having UPVC Double Glazing, Electric Heating &amp; briefly comprising two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, family bathroom with shower and Allocated Parking Space. Viewing 0121 522 3733.</p> <p><b>£500 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Hawksford Crescent Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>A well presented three bedroom traditional bay fronted semi detached property, situated in a quiet Cul-de-sac the property has enjoyed extensive refurbishment and internal redecoration to a high standard. The property briefly comprises of lounge, fitted modern fitted kitchen, Three good size bedrooms, Refitted bathroom, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£500 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Hill Top West Bromwich</b></p> <p>WEST BROMWICH, HILLTOP. Unfurnished. A two bedroom semi detached house with excellent links to the motorway. Close to local amenities and having modern kitchen/diner throughout. In total the property has parking for five. Fitted modern kitchen with cooker and washing machine. Good size lounge with open plan to the rear and doors out to a low maintenance rear garden. There are two double bedrooms to the first floor and the rear bathroom with shower. Further benefits include modern double glazing and the property is in a quiet location.</p> <p><b>£490 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Sandders Crescent Tipton</b></p> <p>A modern ground floor 2 bedroom apartment with double glazing, electric storage heating and security entrance door. The property comprises, reception hall, open plan lounge/ fitted kitchen with built in oven hob and extractor, integrated fridge, 2 bedrooms and bathroom with shower over bath, wash hand basin and w.c. View 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£485 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Newells Drive Tipton</b></p> <p>Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Briefly comprising reception hall, lounge/kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, driveway, front and rear garden. The property comes unfurnished, No DSS.</p> <p><b>£475 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Martin Street Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>A well presented three bedroom traditional bay window terrace situated in a well established popular location the property has enjoyed extensive refurbishment throughout and offers a high standard of accommodation which requires minimal redecoration to be let. The property briefly comprises of Lounge, Dining room, Modern well equipped fitted kitchen, Refitted downstairs bathroom, Three good size bedrooms, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch, No Dss.</p> <p><b>£475 pcm</b></p>
<p><b>Mason Street West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A mid terrace property which has the benefits from central heating and is part double glazed. Briefly comprising two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, family bathroom with shower over bath, two bedrooms. The accommodation has an enclosed rear yard. Viewing 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£475 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Scott Street Tipton</b></p> <p>UNDER APPLICATION Modern ground floor apartment which benefits from upvc double glazing and gas central heating and briefly comprising: Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with built in oven/hob, 2 bedrooms, Bathroom with shower &amp; allocated parking space. Part Furnished.</p> <p><b>£450 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Bloxwich Road South Willenhall</b></p> <p>A two bedroom modern middle terrace home having the benefit of double glazing and electric heating. The property briefly comprises, kitchen, lounge 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower and front and rear gardens.</p> <p><b>£435 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Kelvin Way West Bromwich</b></p> <p>A centrally heated and double glazed terrace house. The fully furnished property comprises: porch, reception hall, through lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen with appliances upstairs bathroom, one bedroom, enclosed rear garden and off road car parking to front. View 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£425 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>The Moorings Oldbury</b></p> <p>A well presented modern first floor apartment set in a popular private location with easy access to motorway networks. Briefly comprising, Hallway, Lounge, Fitted kitchen, Bathroom, Parking, No dss.</p> <p><b>£325 pcm</b></p>	<p><b>Vicarage Road West Bromwich</b></p> <p>The property comprises a one bedroom studio flat above a Chemist shop having the benefit of double glazing and electric heating. The accommodation briefly comprises one bedroom/lounge, fitted kitchen with oven and hob, bathroom, garage. Viewing 0121 525 5520.</p> <p><b>£300 pcm</b></p>



# MOTING NEWS AND REVIEWS

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

## The car from Spain reigns in design department

SEAT, the Spanish motor manufacturer, has been represented in the United Kingdom since 1985 when they sold a mere 405 vehicles.

Quite a few years later they celebrated selling upwards of 20,000 cars a year.

In 1990, the mighty Volkswagen empire acquired 99.9 per cent of Seat and since then, that heritage and pedigree has shone through all Seat's products.

The new Ibiza is based on a new super mini platform that will spread to a plethora of other models in the VW empire.

No matter where you look inside – the dashboard or

**By Bob Hickman**

instrument panel or ventilation nozzles – the Ibiza offers new design features.

Outside, the headlights make a bold statement as does the radiator grille.

The design touches gives the car a sportier and forceful silhouette, with the wheel arches gently flared. But this is a family car so we don't want anything too outlandish, do we?

Like most vehicles, the new Ibiza has grown. The wheelbase has increased by 7mm and the track by 30mm at the front and 33mm at the rear.

This translates to better handling and slightly more interior room.

The Ibiza has a range of engines from which to choose. Petrol units vary from 1.2-litre with a brand new turbocharged 1.2-litre.

### Potent

Diesel engines include the 3-cylinder 1.2-litre that I had on test or a more potent 1.6-litre TDI.

All the engines are mated to a five-speed manual gearbox as standard but there is an option of the brilliant DSG gearbox on the new 1.2-litre TSi. I have to be honest – once you have driven one of the VW stables with the DSG gearbox you won't want to go back to anything else.

Seat, I am pleased to report, have made an easy to follow set of derivatives for your model. You can have an S, SE, a Copa, or a Sport.

My particular vehicle was the Copa equipped with the

three-cylinder 1199cc diesel engine. This produces 75bhp and Seat suggest that it will have a top speed of 108mph and a 0-60 of a lethargic 14 seconds.

Where they are suggesting this vehicle scores heavily is in the economics of running it and the fuel costs.

A combined fuel figure of 80.7mpg is claimed and CO2 emissions of 92g/km put this vehicle into Band A, or a nil rate for your Road Fund Licence.

Sadly, what the vehicle lacks is performance. During my test week, I found the vehicle and the engine so lethargic at times as to be embarrassing.

Seat may want to promote this vehicle as one of the most economical you can buy but you do need to have some fun and a bit of a rewarding drive.

### Performance

The five-speed gearbox worked well, but certainly around town you can forget fifth and at times you can forget fourth.

The Copa's little three-cylinder engine really did need to be revved hard to get any sort of performance from it.

It was a disappointing and it could

never

feature on my potential list of derivatives.

I would, however, consider the Ibiza because its standard equipment includes alloy wheels, tinted windows and climate control.

The latter includes a chilled glove box which is a godsend when you have small children or grandchildren and you want to keep chocolate unmelted.

The upholstery was good; the stop/start system worked well, and other features included the steering column mountings for the audio controls and electric front and rear windows.

A host of air bags (including side bags), remote control height adjustable steering wheel tells you the vehicle is very well equipped and has all the attributes that you would need.

But, for me, the 1.2-litre 3-cylinder diesel engine let this vehicle down and for once it would not be on my list of recommended vehicles.



The new Ibiza shows a sportier silhouette



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# Driver Power salute for ever improving Hyundai

HYUNDAI has been awarded the most improved car manufacturer in the Auto Express '10 Years of Driver Power' special.

From a total of more than 300,000 surveys received over the last 10 years of the annual Driver Power survey, Hyundai has gone from being one of the poorest performing manufacturers for customer satisfaction to one of the five best brands.

Hyundai's customer satisfaction rating has risen by over eight per cent in the last 10 years from 78.12 per cent in 2002 to 86.34 per cent in 2011.

No other car manufacturer has made such a dramatic leap forward over this period.

This achievement is also mirrored by a dramatic rise up the best manufacturer chart from 28th place in 2002 to fourth place in 2011.

## Satisfying

Performing strongly in the reliability and satisfaction poll since its launch in 2007, the Hyundai i30 is rated fourth in the Top 50 cars of the decade.

This vehicle sent shockwaves through the industry last year when it was named the most satisfying car in Britain in the 2010 Driver Power survey and its accolade as the fourth best car of the decade showcases the quality and reliability of the latest Hyundai product line-up.

Acting editor of Auto Express, Graham Hope, declared: "No brand has taken such a massive leap over the past decade as Hyundai.

"Its range now is unrecognisable from 2002, and our readers regularly tell us that they are both pleased and proud to own a Hyundai, which is reflected in its meteoric rise up our Driver Power ratings," he added.

## Range

"And the company looks set to achieve even greater things in the years ahead."

Hyundai UK's managing director, Tony Whitehorn, said: "We are delighted to win this award.

"It confirms just how far we have come in a short space of time and that we now have a range of cars people can be proud to have on their driveways," he added.

"With even more desirable products just around the corner, this really is a very exciting time for the brand."

Full results from the 36-page Driver Power survey special can be seen in Auto Express magazine.



Auto Express publishing director James Burnay, acting editor Graham Hope and Hyundai managing director Tony Whitehorn



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Land Rover Defender concept vehicles at the Frankfurt Motor Show



Jaguar's C-X16 concept is a potential Porsche rival

# All eyes on the German stage

By **Iain Dooley**

THERE was no shortage of new cars and technologies on display at this year's Frankfurt Motor Show.

And while "green" motoring has finally become a mainstream discussion topic, there was more to the show than just fuel economy and CO2 figures.

World debuts are the staple diet of shows such as Frankfurt, and one such debut with strong ties to the UK was Honda's Civic.

This latest generation family hatch will be built in the Japanese firm's Swindon facility.

Honda has had a presence in the UK for some time and the Civic is synonymous with the West Country plant.

## Generation

During the car's four-year development cycle, Honda engineers concentrated on improving the car's ride and handling, boosting interior cabin quality and overall ambience and, crucially, focusing on lowering fuel consumption and emissions – the 2.2-litre diesel is now rated at 110g/km CO2 for example.

Petrol fans are well served with 1.4 and 1.8-litre units, while all engines gain a stop-start feature to further help the car's economy drive.

Aside from the Civic, another hotly anticipated new model is Porsche's latest generation 911.

It would be easy to say that it's the same again from the German firm. Certainly, it looks very familiar.

However, over the years Porsche has worked hard to deliver a consistent and familiar look while constantly evolving the car's mechanicals.

And that approach is true for today as it was when the car was first launched.

## Sister

With the ability to achieve the impossible – lower consumption and emissions yet more power – Porsche's new 911 is without doubt a considerable step forward for driving enthusiasts.

Slightly increased dimensions, a seven-speed manual gearbox to match the car's seven-speed PDK auto, a Panamera-inspired cabin and the promise of harder core, faster models in the years to come are the main highlights of the model.

Staying on a performance theme, the appearance of Toyota's long-awaited new affordable sports car, the FT86, should silence all those impatient critics.

It's fair to say it's been a long time coming but, like the LFA from sister company Lexus, it should be worth the wait.

And in partnership with Toyota, Subaru will also be releasing a car from the same platform complete with its trademark Boxer engine and, unusually, rear not all-wheel drive.

If you think waiting just a few years for a sporty new Toyota is frustrating, you're going to need the patience of a saint if you plan on hanging around for the next generation Land Rover Defender.

Although the company might be streaking ahead in the style stakes with its recently launched Evoque, the venerable Defender has soldiered on for numerous decades thanks to a modest rolling programme of updates.

## Tough

In a bid to test the public's reaction to an all-new model, Land Rover has wheeled out a concept car that's a radical departure from the current boxy, workmanlike vehicle.

The company hasn't got long before it has to commit to a new Defender thanks to the current car's ageing construction and increasingly tough crash performance legislation.

Last but not least, Jaguar wowed the assembled media with its daring new C-X16. OK, so it might only be a concept car for now, but the company is on record saying that it wants to produce a compact sports coupe to rival the Porsche's 911.

It looks a bit smaller than the current XK coupe and it has every chance of being a genuine driver's car.



Honda's Civic Mugen has been tweaked for power

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\*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. \*\*Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 30 September 2011. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.



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- Driving Test Success All Tests 2012 Edition (PC DVD-ROM, £10.20)
- The Complete Theory Test 2012 Edition (PC DVD-ROM, £10.20)
- Driving Test Success All Tests DVD 2012 Edition (DVD, £15.31)
- Driving Test Success: The Complete Guide to Passing your Driving Test (PC DVD-ROM, £30.63)
- Theory Test – Driving Test Success (iOS App, £1.99)
- Hazard Perception – Driving Test Success (iOS App, £1.99)

## Why revise?

The pass rate for the driving theory test is at its lowest in five years.

The DSA believes that this is because learners aren't preparing properly.

Around 1.5 million car theory tests were attempted in 2009/10 with almost four in 10 tests (36 per cent) resulting in a fail, the lowest pass rate on record since 2004/05.

With over 1,200 questions in the current official DSA revision bank, candidates must be prepared to put in a considerable amount of effort if they are to walk out of the test centre with a pass certificate.

It's vital that candidates study the latest edition of the Highway Code, learn and understand the principles behind all of the official revision questions, and develop their hazard perception skills.

These subjects and more besides are fully covered in the new Driving Test Success products. For further information visit the website: <http://www.drivingtestsuccess.com/2012-product-range>.



# Vauxhall drivers back MasterFit service club

Vauxhall MasterFit has just signed up its 100,000th Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club member.

The Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club launched to Network Q customers in August 2010 and was then extended in November to all Vauxhalls over two years of age, regardless of where they were bought.

Over those 11 months, nearly 2,000 new members have been signing up every week.

Membership of the Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club is free and it entitles owners to discounts on parts, labour and MOT tests.

Vehicles between two and three years old receive a 15 per cent discount; those four to seven years old qualify for a 20 per cent discount; additionally, those eight years and older can benefit from the maximum discount of 25 per cent.

## Radius

This comes in addition to Vauxhall MasterFit's highly competitive offerings, which include the Price Match Promise, guaranteeing that each MasterFit retailer will meet or beat the quote of any local competitor within a five mile radius on a written quote for like-for-like work.

Vauxhall service manager, Belinda Craik, said: "The discounts available through the Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club make the already competitive prices offered by Vauxhall service outlets truly outstanding value, which is why it has been such a success with our customers."

"The Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club membership discounts combined with the existing MasterFit Promise ensure that Vauxhall customers continue to enjoy one of the very best service and repair offerings on the market."



A MasterFit technician changes an air filter

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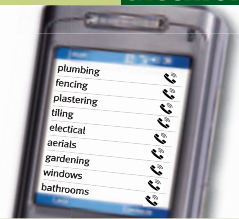




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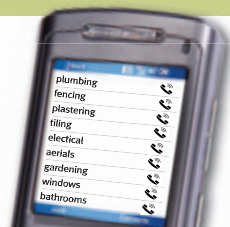
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# Wilenhall skittled like ninepins

## CAUSEWAY 9 WILLENHALL 1

CAUSEWAY put the memories of FA Vase defeat well behind them as they demolished Wilenhall to record their best result in the Midland Alliance.

United got off to a perfect start when Andy Wells opened the scoring on just four minutes before Dan Priest double the lead three minutes later with a thundering 15-yard strike.

Andre Calder toe-poked home from close range just five minutes later to reduce the arrears for The Lockmen.

United skipper Chris Field restored the hosts' two-goal advantage on the

half hour. Carl Hind celebrated United's fourth on 36 minutes with Priest adding his second to put the game beyond any doubt.

Despite losing skipper Chris Field on 47 minutes following a challenge from substitute Matt Dohan, United refused to take their foot off the pedal.

## Foolishly

Wells added his second of the game, when he chipped the Wilenhall keeper from 25 yards to make it 6-1.

At this stage, it was one way traffic as United cut through the Wilenhall

defence like a hot knife through butter. Colin Tandy added goals seven and eight after long balls from Stevenson, with Tandy confidently finishing.

Craig Gregg, and Carl Martin were both presented with chances to extend United's lead only to see their efforts kept out by the keeper.

With three minutes remaining, Tandy burst the net as he became the first United substitute to record a second half hat-trick at this level.

In stoppage time, the Wilenhall keeper received a red card when he foolishly raced out to floor Tandy.

## CASTLE VALE 1 PELSALL VILLA 1

THE game started at a frantic pace on Saturday, with both sides trying to get a foot hold in the game.

A through ball from John Patrick almost sent Jason Holmes clear, but the Vale keeper averted the danger. A long ball into the Pelsall box ended with Danny O'Callaghan forcing a save from Chris Collins.

As Pelsall started to get on top a free-kick delivered into the area by Ryan Williams fell to Patrick, whose pinpoint pass was swept home by Daniel Battison. Pelsall continued

to press and Craig Stevens and John Hawley combined but some great defending by Josh McPherson denied Battison at the expense of a corner.

Great work by Holmes on the left ended with his cross being claimed by Vale keeper Peter Maguire.

## Scrambling

Vale hit back and a Danny Tymon cross from the left saw O'Callaghan plant a free header wide.

Pelsall pressed again and some neat build up play involving Jimmy

Lewis, Battison and Holmes put Patrick clear, but his shot was smothered by Maguire.

Maguire then spilled a cross under pressure but Battison's lob went over.

Vale levelled on 35 minutes when Joe Halsall's cross was headed home by O'Callaghan.

In the second half, Holmes was twice denied by a scrambling Vale defence. Patrick was thwarted by a superb save from Maguire, with an outstretched hand tipping away a powerful 35-yard strike.

## Wood woe as strike in injury time beats Exall

### PERSHORE TOWN 3 WALSALL WOOD 2

TOWN reversed last week's scoreline, but the game hinged on two penalty decisions within minutes of each other at the end of the first half, writes Bill Shaw.

Wood's shout was waved away and the one at the other end, two minutes later, was given.

However, both sides wasted enough chances to have won two games before Wood gifted the winner to the home side in the second minute of injury time.

The first exchanges were forgettable until, 10 minutes in, a rash challenge on the edge of the Town box gave Mark Bandurak a chance to fire over the angle.

Within a minute Wood were ahead. Adam Langley fed Lewis Taylor Boyce wide on the Wood right and he cut inside, wriggled his way past three players and scored off the keeper at the near post.

After 22 minutes Will Gayton over-hit a ball from wide on the Town left, but it was collected by Phil Green beyond the far post and he cut inside and saw his shot saved by Lewis Exall.

On 40 minutes a free-kick wide on the right from Duncan Edwards found Tim Beattie in the box and he forced the ball home in a congested six-yard box.

This stung Wood into life and they should have had a penalty on 43 minutes when Torgut Bilgimer found Bandurak on the right of the box and he went down under a clumsy challenge.

It got worse as, right on half-time, Green crossed from the right and Stuart Cox got to the ball before Chris Cornes, rocketing a back header towards his own goal. Exall kept the ball out, but it fell to Insall six yards out, and he appeared to be pulled back, conceding a penalty which Green scored.

At the start of the second half Cornes put Lewis Bridges in on goal. Exall went out quickly to make a brave block and then on 47 minutes Adlington raced away on the left and his cross to the far post was volleyed over by Cornes.

## Equalise

On 56 minutes Exall raced from his box to hit a ball over the top of the Town defence.

Taylor Boyce timed his forward run to perfection and lobbed the stranded Pershore goalkeeper Lamber to equalise.

Exall made a save from Green's rising drive on 63 minutes and he then raced from his line to get in a timely block as Insall broke through for Pershore.

Green and Cornes combined five minutes later with the latter's shot deflected for a corner that saw Beattie power a header over the right angle.

Eleven minutes from time Green made space on the left and his cross shot bounced off the bar with Exall beaten.

Having weathered the storm, Michael Murray crossed from wide on the Wood left and Taylor Boyce saw his shot half stopped by Lambert and cleared away by Beattie.

In time added on Cornes collected another Wood misplaced crossfield ball and raced away on the right, crossed to the far post and Green scored via a deflection off the unfortunate Exall.

Wood entertain Ellesmere Rangers in the FA Vase at Oak Park this Saturday, September 24.

## Maxwell hammers half-century as Walsall draw

WALSALL cricketers ended their Birmingham & District Premier League season on Saturday with a 12-point winning draw against West Bromwich Dartmouth.

Maxwell scored 57 in their 109-5 and Byrne took four wickets for 28 runs as WBD

### WALSALL 0 OLDHAM 1

IF AT first you don't succeed, try, try and try again.

It's fast becoming the Walsall mantra after three successive defeats illustrated the Saddlers are yet to find the right formula.

Last week's 1-0 reverse to Oldham Athletic was another reminder of the Saddlers' missing vitality.

A third defeat – a second at home – to another team who, for anyone holding serious play-off aspirations, needed to be brushed aside is cause for questioning.

Oldham were organised and merited the points because they were more inventive, more robust and more clinical.

Dean Smith outlined his reasons to be cheerful with purpose and more than a hint of justification.

The boss still has confidence in his men to perform, citing they have not been over-awed by anyone yet, but just need to find their consistency.

And there is no need to panic so early in the campaign. The necessary changes can be made to ensure the Saddlers recapture their form.

Yet three straight defeats have knocked the proverbial stuffing out of the early-season optimism.

## Missing

The toughest assignment the Saddlers now have is to revive the momentum from what has become a standing start following their slump.

They had credit in the bank from the Great Escape but have now reached their overdraft limit with little left to bail them out.

The spark which has been one of the cornerstones of Smith's reign, the little sign which convinces you even in the darkest of times, was again missing.

There is better to come from the Saddlers, but they must rediscover the lost flair and creativity which has cost them three games.

More, much more, is expected of the players – from both inside and outside the dressing room – and the self-imposed slumber cannot continue if they want to avoid another season of struggle.

Smith moved to rouse his men by handing David Martin an instant debut, despite the fact he had not trained with his new team-mates after signing for a month from Derby County.

The winger slotted in on the left, leaving Kevan Hurst to switch to the right wing. Hurst made up a new right side as Lee Beevers was handed his full debut with Darryl



Walsall striker Will Grigg looks to find a way through the Oldham defence at the Banks's Stadium



Andy Butler in the thick of the action



Richard Taundry involved in a midfield battle

Westlake, who failed to make the bench, paying the price for the 2-1 defeat at Notts County.

Jon Macken and Claude Gnaka were also absent with hamstring problems so Will Grigg returned to partner Ryan Jarvis.

The teams traded early blows as Richard Taundry and Chris Taylor fired over before Tom Adeyemi shanked wide.

Scrappy, and with neither side able to seriously impose themselves, the game drifted into a malaise, only punctuated by referee Naylor's whistle.

Slowly, though, Oldham began to threaten and bagged their winner on 29 minutes with a soft strike.

Robbie Simpson distracted the Saddlers to find Reuben Reid, his cross reached the onrushing Taylor whose shot deflected in off the luckless Andy Butler.

Manny Smith headed wide and

Jarvis scooped over in reply, but it was all a little rushed and ill-conceived from the Saddlers.

Echoing the County loss, Walsall tried to force the issue rather than play with the sense of freedom which had been a feature of their promise in the first few games.

They failed to seriously test Latics shot-stopper Alex Cisak and only Jarvis's 20-yarder exercised the keeper.

Their powder-puff attacks had been a major part of their undoing against Notts County and Brentford and they again lacked clout.

The ineffective Grigg and Jarvis were dominated by Jean Yves M'Voto and Nathan Clarke, but were given little support by their misfiring colleagues.

Adam Chambers and Taundry were bossed by 19-year-old Tom Adeyemi while Hurst and Martin struggled for penetration.

## Aldridge off to autumn flier

### ALDRIDGE 22 FIVE WAYS OLD EDWARDIANS 5

Aldridge made a good start in their first league rugby encounter of the Midlands 5 West (North) season, writes Jim Chambers.

A penalty from No 10 Mark Large gave them the lead after just two minutes, but from then on the game became fragmented with both sides struggling to gain ascendancy and find some continuity.

The visitors had plenty of penalty opportunities to even things up but the

kicks went wide and Aldridge hung on to the slender lead until mid-way through the second half when a penalty try for a high tackle, converted by Large, increased the margin.

## Momentum

Almost immediately the visitors hit back with a try in the corner by winger Simon Lissiter, but by this time the home side were beginning to gain momentum. A well flighted kick ahead from Large with some swift following up and a slick pass inside from flanker Ben Drinkwater put winger Alex Yates into space and over close to the posts.

And with five minutes left, centre George Stevens skittled the defence to cross mid way out.

Large added the conversion as Aldridge took the win.

## Squire sets ball rolling

### CRESSWELL WANDERERS U13S 3 HUNTINGTON HARRIERS 2

AFTER a slow start to the game by Cresswell, Jack Squire wriggled free to score the opener for the home side, writes Mike Dunn.

Jack May caused havoc on the wing only to see chances go begging.

Huntington piled on pressure and got their reward with a great strike to make it 1-1 at half time.

## Talent

On came Susy Ryan Brookes and Nathan Griffiths to make an instant impact for Wanderers, with Brookes slamming home from the spot after winning a penalty, followed by Griffiths latching on to a pass to give Cresswell a 3-1 lead.

Huntington did not lie down

and grabbed a second. There were nervy moments towards the end but man of the match Ben Harris demonstrated his growing talent with a string of fine saves to keep all three points and send Cresswell to the top of Lichfield & District League Division 1 by two points.

### CRESSWELL TIGERS U9S 11 PARK HILL BOYS U9S 0

A fine display by the Tigers saw them easily victorious. The goals came from Harrison Hughes, Tyler Bishop, Joseph Maley, Jake Percival with a hat-trick and Man of the Match Jack Humphries with five.

### CRESSWELL TIGERS U9S 3 SHIRE OAK CUBS U9S 0

An even contest was settled by goals from Myles Lowe, Jake Percival and Owen Roberts.

## Lucky Pics as Lei laps up Cup chance from spot

### RUSHALL OLYMPIC 1 BEDWORTH UNITED 0

RUSHALL Olympic were fortunate to reach the next round of the FA Cup as they scraped past old foes Bedworth United at Dales Lane, writes Darren Stockall.

The hosts made three changes to their midweek starting line-up as skipper Adie Smith returned in place of James Sedgell, while Marcus Jackson came in for the injured Richard Blythe and Lei Brown made a welcome return to the ranks following his transfer from Redditch United.

Olympic looked to be off to a flier on nine minutes when a Ahmed Obeng run was ended by a foul from Bedworth skipper Ian Roper in the box. However, Matt Lewis's penalty nightmare continued as his penalty was saved by Tom Gutteridge.

Rushall were gifted another opportunity from 12 yards in the 22nd minute when Roper repeated the act on Obeng. However, this time the hosts were not as benevolent as Lei Brown powered the resulting spot-kick into the bottom corner.

During the first period home keeper Chris Gemmell had been a virtual spectator, but on 55 minutes a terrific 25-yard strike from full-back Alex Dean was saved at full stretch.

Olympic responded and just before the hour-mark the United custodian was called into action when Brown drilled goalwards from the edge of the box after being set up by Obeng, only to see Gutteridge save.

## Crashing

On 73 minutes Chris Tullin tried his luck with an overly ambitious strike from fully 40 yards out that sailed way over the crossbar, while five minutes later a superb save saw Gemmell diving at full length to his left to deny a venomous first-time strike from Piggon as Bedworth countered.

With eight minutes left Tolley proved himself to be the hero for Rushall as he somehow diverted a goalbound strike over the crossbar on the goal-line in the aftermath of a goalmouth scramble that saw two previous attempts frantically repelled.

Sean Platt's 25-yard free-kick from the left channel provide some brief respite for Olympic, but the effort was comfortably held low down by the Greenbacks' keeper.

With two minutes left United were down to 10 men. Skipper Roper was dismissed for a second bookable offence as Rushall substitute Luke Edwards was sent crashing.

**Rushall Olympic:** Gemmell, Spittle, Smith, Tolley, Platt, Beckett, Dacres (Keenan 65), Jackson, Lewis (Edwards 65), Obeng, Brown (Fitzpatrick 84). **Referee:** A. Clayton (Hyde).

### STAFFORD RANGERS 1 RUSHALL OLYMPIC 1

A LATE penalty miss from Matt Lewis meant Rushall had to settle for a 1-1 Evo-Stik Premier League draw at Marston Road.

Rushall's second-half own goal was cancelled out by Stafford's Sean Kinsella in last week's clash.

The Pies' best opportunity of the first period arrived when Danny Bragoli made a break from midfield but his effort was blocked for a corner. The second half produced a much more open game and Chris Gemmell in the Rushall goal was tested with a stinging drive from 30 yards.

Obeng forced Sam Johnson into a sprawling stop with a shot from 10 yards before a Sean Platt cross evaded the attentions of the Stafford defence but Lewis could only direct his header into the hands of the keeper.

## Restart

Platt also saw another cross wrong-foot the home shot-stopper and come back into play off the inside of the post.

The game sprang into life in the final quarter of an hour. A Rushall corner from Platt led to a scramble in the area with shots raining in from Christian Dacres, Bragoli and Lewis.

But it was Lucan Spittle's cross from the byline that kept the ball alive and Obeng's drive was deflected into his own net by Peter Heier.

The Pies' lead was short lived as almost straight from the restart Platt brought down Chris Budrys in the area.

The resultant penalty was clinically dispatched by Kinsella to bring the hosts level.

Rushall were awarded a spot-kick themselves when Obeng was bundled over, but top scorer Lewis put his spot-kick wide.



# sport

TURN TO  
PAGE 59  
FOR ...

PICS RIDE  
THEIR LUCK  
TO GRAB  
CUP WIN

INJURY TIME  
SICKENER  
AS WOOD  
GO DOWN

KEEPER OFF  
AS SAD  
TOWN  
LET IN NINE

## AXE WARNING TO SADDLERS FLOPS

Fitzgerald try a rare bright spot for Walsall

LICHFIELD 34 WALSALL 5

WALSALL'S unbeaten start to the season came to an abrupt end at a windswept Cooke Fields last Saturday, writes Arnold Evans.

The visitors had been forced into team changes because of unavailability and also lost flanker Daniel Simpson after just 15 minutes. He was injured as he was making a try-saving tackle.

Walsall had a nightmare start when a clearance was charged down and flanker Poulson dived over.

During the next ten minutes some good by the visiting forwards brought play deep into Lichfield territory. Russ Gauden and Rod Dickson were stopped just short of the line before scrum half Lloyd delivered a well-timed pass to hooker Pete Fitzgerald, who showed tremendous speed and strength to crash through would-be tacklers to score wide out.

This should have given Walsall the incentive to take the game to their opponents, but another moment of madness gave Lichfield another try straight from the restart.

### Entertain

The Walsall players stood still and allowed the ball to bounce straight into the arms of flanker Milner, who outpaced defenders to score near the posts.

The visitors were very much still in the game at this stage and there were several good attacks instigated by centres Wotton and Lowe and by winger Andy Turner. But it was Turner that committed the penalty that gave Lichfield the next score and a 15-5 half time lead.

Turner powered through would-be tacklers and seemed to be going clear. But to everyone's surprise the referee deemed that he should have released the ball on one of the occasions.

Immediately the second half kicked off the hosts ran the ball from deep, with centre Greg Massey receiving the final pass to score.

The visitors showed some urgency in the next ten minutes and wingers Turner and Greenslade went close. But a solitary Lichfield attack saw No 8 Goodwin pick up from close range and force his way over the line.

The final 15 minutes saw most of the game being played deep in Lichfield territory, but it was another length of the field attack that brought the game to the end with lock forward Perrins touching down. This weekend Walsall entertain a powerful Burton team at Delves Road.

## Woffinden sparkles to grab open trophy

GOLDEN boy Tai Woffinden gave a 24-carat display to win the jewellers-sponsored Midland Open Championship.

The 21-year-old took the Gary Peterson Memorial Trophy with a flawless 15-point maximum at Monmore on Monday.

The Walsall Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Tetford, Shropshire, Thursday, September 22, 2011.

### Walsall 2 Scunthorpe United 2

ANGRY Dean Smith rounded on his Walsall flops this week and threatened to axe the under-performers.

The Saddlers boss ripped into his men after they drew 2-2 with Scunthorpe despite Will Grigg's wonder goal.

Walsall were denied a smash and grab win at the Banks's Stadium by Jimmy Ryan's injury-time leveller for the Iron.

But, despite ending a three-match losing streak, Smith criticised his team and insisted they should fear the chop.

He said: "If guys don't perform they will leave the football club and I'll bring someone else in who can. Simple as that."

"I'm not going to ship them all out but they've set the standards already and they didn't live up to them."

"I've told them I don't want to be associated with performances like that. We were awful."

"There were basic errors all over the pitch, we let players run off us, didn't win first balls, second balls and our passing and moving was non-existent."

"Our performance was poor and the only thing that lightened it was Will's goal."

### System

Adam Chambers headed the ragged Saddlers ahead before Garry Thompson's first equaliser 11 minutes from time.

The draw left Walsall 16th in League One, five points off the play-off spots, and Smith admitted the Saddlers are suffering at home.

"As bad as we played, we should have put the game to bed. We had chances but didn't take them," said the boss.

"We are trying a few things. I made changes, we changed the system as well and we still couldn't get on the ball and pass it. We don't seem to be able to find space at home, get on the ball and move it quick enough."

But Smith saluted Grigg's stunning volley - his second goal of the season - which almost claimed an undeserved win.

"You wouldn't have seen a better goal in the country on Saturday," he said.

"It was a great ball and a great finish. It was great technique and we'll take the positives from it - but there weren't many of them."

"Adam also scored one off his back. It was a great ball in from (Richard) Taundry and Adam will say it was the back of his head but you'll take goals when they come."

The problems are obvious, the solutions are not.

These are disappointing times at Walsall where questions are so readily available yet the answers are frustratingly out of reach.

A lack of creativity, consistency, killer instinct and confidence are the clear causes of the Saddlers' somewhat alarming slump. Saturday's 2-2 draw with Scunthorpe extended the Saddlers' winless streak to four and left them struggling.

Their admirable ambition is being stunted by harsh reality.

It's not that easy to go out and find the quality which the Saddlers so evidently need. When asked about reinforcements Smith quite rightly pointed out the good ones, the ones who can make a difference, cost money.

The boss is in a frustrating catch-22 situation where he needs a spark but doesn't have



Adam Chambers' header puts Walsall 1-0 up in the first half at the Banks's Stadium



Dave Martin is fouled by Damien Mozika

the cash to pay top dollar for a serious game changer.

Sympathy lies with Smith who made four changes with Jimmy Walker, Oliver Lancashire, Anton Peterlin and Jamie Paterson returning. Of the four, 18-year-old Paterson, in his first start, caught the eye. He has the skills and exuberance to add the extra dimension.

Failures against Oldham, Yeovil and Brentford at home are unacceptable for a team whose very public ambition was to challenge for the play-offs.

Winless Scunthorpe, relegated last term, were a cut above. The Iron played the kind of football Walsall aspire to and had the hosts stolen the points they would have ended up on Crimewatch. Quite how they were 2-1 ahead going into injury time owed much to Will Grigg's wonder goal but also The Iron's profligacy. Scunthorpe dominated possession but squandered chances.

Walsall lacked creativity but went ahead thanks to Adam Chambers' 22nd minute header.

That it came from Richard Taundry's free-



Ryan Jarvis is challenged by Paul Reid

kick was no surprise as, from open play, Walsall were about as sharp as a rubber ring.

They were pegged back by Garry Thompson's scrappy equaliser 11 minutes from time before Grigg's wonder strike.

Afterwards Smith was at pains to point out the Northern Ireland Under-21 star is still young and still learning but he will never score a better goal in his career.

The technique, the poise and accuracy of the strike from 12-yards had all the hallmarks of Marco van Basten's volley for Holland in Euro '88. But it wasn't good enough to win it as Jimmy Ryan drilled in an injury-time equaliser.

Walsall: Walker, Beevers, Lancashire, Sadler, Butler, Taundry, Chambers, Peterlin (Grigg 64), Paterson, Jarvis (Nicholls 73), Martin (Hurst 78).

Scunthorpe United: Johnstone; Togwell, Duffy, Reid, Nolan; Norwood (Thompson, 71), Mozika (Ryan, 86), O'Connor, Duffy; Dagnall, Grant.

Referee: I. Williamson (Berkshire).

Attendance: 3,619.



Walsall full-back Lee Beevers rises highest to nod away a Scunthorpe United cross

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We like to think that being a family-owned business selling everything for the home all under one roof makes us unique, but there are lots of other reasons why we stand out from the crowd.

#### Flexible & Affordable Finance

From interest free credit with no deposit to low APR finance on conservatories.



#### Home Delivery Service

When we deliver your goods, we'll contact you on the morning of delivery with an estimated arrival time and unpack your goods, taking the packaging away for recycling.



#### Online Shopping

Thousands of items available to purchase at the click of a button at leekes.co.uk.



#### 360° Complete Service

We like to help customers with every aspect of their home improvements. Ask about our free design, planning and project management service.



#### Price Promise\*

Our commitment to offer the best price - supported by our money back guarantee.





**Leekes**  
You're home

up to **30% off kitchens\*\***  
available with interest free credit† and no deposit to pay

We all know that the kitchen is the hub of the home and finding the one that's perfect for you and how you'll use it is one of our areas of expertise.

Our Kitchen Studio showcases a carefully selected range of over 40 kitchens from leading designers including Sheraton, Rotpunkt, Cusina and Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The options are almost limitless - hand crafted, classic oak, contemporary high gloss - and there's a whole host of work surfaces, appliances and accessories to complete the look too.

Once you've made your choice, our kitchen experts will guide you through our 360° Complete Service to create an affordable kitchen that's as individual as you are.



**The largest range  
of kitchens and bathrooms  
in the West Midlands**

up to **30% off bathrooms**  
available with interest free credit† and no deposit to pay



With over 50 bathrooms and showers on display, you'll be forgiven for being spoilt for choice! It comes as no surprise to find that our range combines practical design with functional style as our bathrooms and showers are designed by some of the biggest and best in the market – Jacuzzi, Heritage, Daryl, Roman and Utopia – to name just a few.

As with our kitchens, our experts in the Bathroom Studio will take you through our 360° Complete Service – with planning, design and an installation service all offered as standard – so we take care of everything for you.

**Casa conservatories** complete from **£9,499\***  
including cane furniture, Casa tiles and a Dimplex heater/fan worth £1,000

If you're considering adding space or improving the exterior of your home, then our Conservatory and Glazing experts here at Leekes are full of great ideas to help.

Using the finest materials, the latest technology and traditional craftsmanship, you'll find the most up to the minute innovations available – from conservatories with tiled roofs to garden rooms and orangeries.

And it's not just about conservatories. Installing replacement windows and doors, garage doors and roofline products is something we're experienced in too.

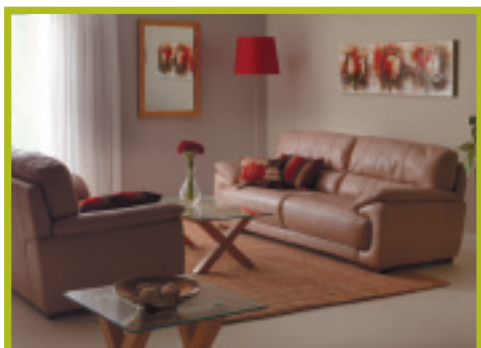
Whatever home improvement project you're considering investing in, there's free design as well as a planning and installation service and a 10 year guarantee for total peace of mind - from a company with over 100 years of experience.





# Save <sup>up to</sup> £1300 on dining and <sup>up to</sup> £1000 on sofas

available with interest free credit<sup>†</sup> and no deposit to pay



“More than any other room in your home, your lounge says the most about your personality. Whether you're looking for a contemporary corner group, sophisticated chaise longue or classic three seater sofa, quality and value for money come as standard. If you're looking for the perfect dining set, then you'll find an abundance of choice, from glass topped tables and elegant chairs to rustic oak dining sets and high-gloss designs too. And not forgetting the choice we have in store if it's a bed you're after. All the big brands are here including Silentnight, Rest Assured, Gainsborough and more. Sweet dreams are guaranteed – whatever you choose!”

## Half price underlay on carpets<sup>††</sup>

“You'll find carpets, wallpaper, cushions, lighting, cookware, mirrors, bedding, pictures and so much more – so it's easy to see why we're the one stop destination store for the perfect finishing touches.

And if you need a helping hand, then speak to our Interior Design team. Their speciality is knowing everything there is to know about designer fabrics from Harlequin, Romo, Blendworth and Designers Guild and how best to use them. They can create gorgeous bespoke window treatments, cushions and throws which will make a statement or simply make you feel at home. And what's more, their advice is free so it's well worth paying the team a visit when you pop into store.”



Over 100,000 square feet of retail space



### THIS WEEKEND ONLY

Come and join us for our fantastic voucher weekend. We're giving 20% back on new purchases across the store\*.

22nd - 25th September  
**DON'T MISS IT!**

### BUY 1 GET 1 FREE on sandwiches

Purchase one sandwich in our café and receive another one free.

Take some time out in our new café. It's a great addition to the store and lets you take the weight off your feet after all that shopping!

Available from Monday 12th September until Wednesday 5th October 2011.

**Leekes**  
You're home



For details of all our offers visit [leekes.co.uk](http://leekes.co.uk)

**Bilston** Great Bridge Road, West Midlands WV14 8LB  
Telephone 0845 050 8240

\*Finance is subject to status, conditions apply. Minimum spend £200 in selected departments. † Available on carpet orders of £250 or more. Excludes fitting and accessories. \*\*Offer applies to doored kitchen cabinets only, excludes plumbing and electrics and ex-display kitchens. Discounts vary according to range. Minimum spend £3000. \* Price based on standard 3m x 3m Casa Conservatory. \*\* Conditions and maximum voucher limit applies. Limitations may also apply in certain departments.

